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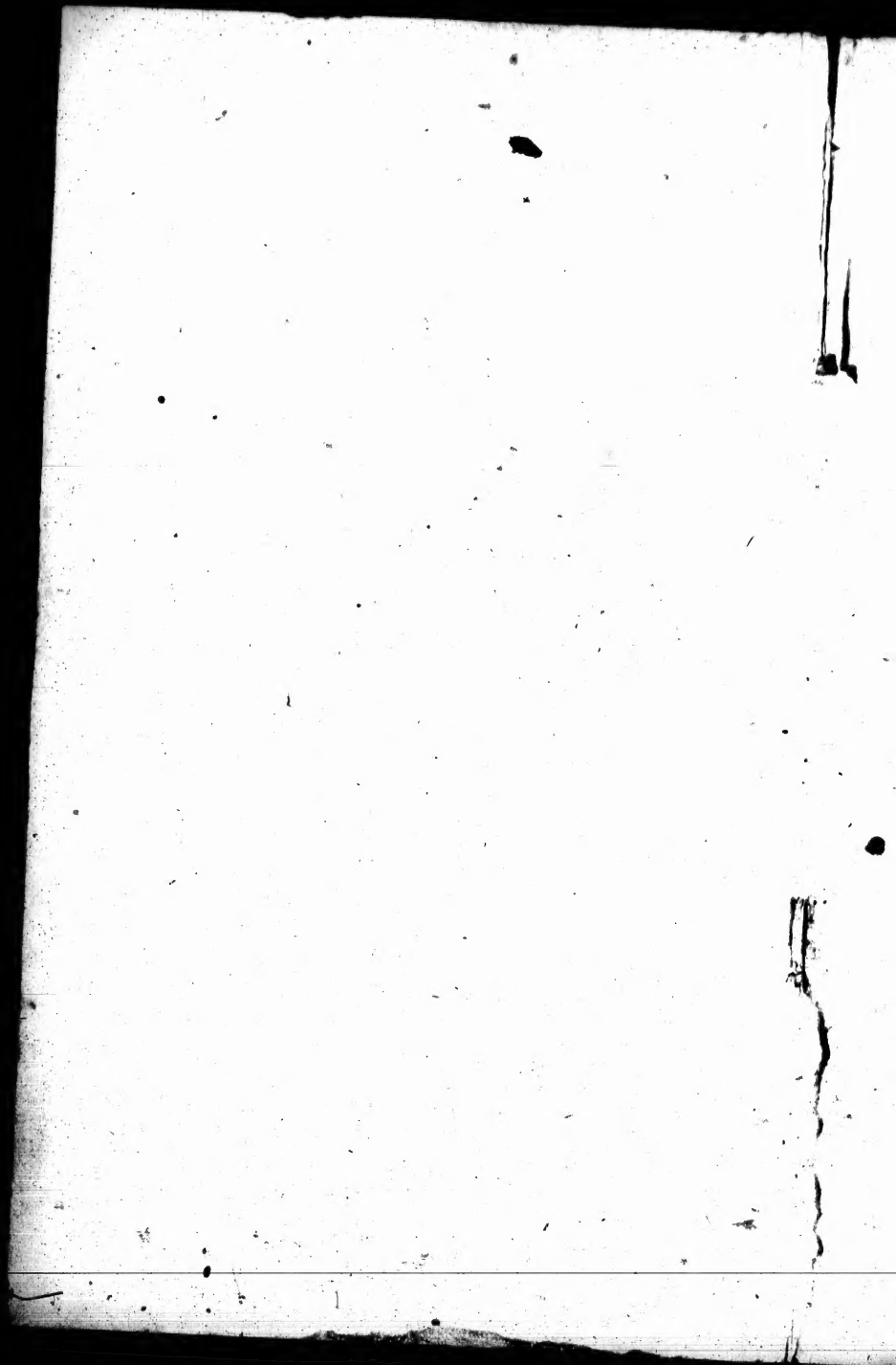
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LOVELL'S SERIES OF SCHOOL BOOKS.

TREATISE
ON
FRENCH PRONUNCIATION
AND
GENDERS.

J. B. ANGELVY LAFONT, Esq.,

FRENCH MASTER AT THE HAMILTON, C. W., GRAMMAR AND
CENTRAL SCHOOLS.

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PREFACE.

In the preparation of this Treatise, the chief end in view has been to reconcile simplicity and brevity with clearness and completeness. For this purpose a progressive plan has been adopted in which the subject develops itself by degrees, naturally, easily, and also comprehensively. Thus, Sections Second, Third, and Fourth, about the vowel sounds, are more extensively explained by Sections Tenth and Eleventh; and Section Sixth, upon the consonants, is completed by the Ninth, &c. The final consonants, the union of words, the pronunciation of *e* unaccented, the sixteen fundamental sounds of the French language have been treated with special care and attention; and it is hoped that the multiplicity of examples and exercises contained in this book will prove to be of great utility to learners.

The author does not desire to occupy space in praising his work: if it be good, it will speak for itself; if not, praises will be of no avail. He begs however to remind his readers that the public justly demand French birth and education on the part of him who would write worthily on the French language; and as he was born in France and educated in the cities where the purest French is spoken—Versailles and Paris—besides having resided fifteen years in the same cities, and as he moreover enjoys the further advantage of extensive experience in teaching, he does claim, at the opening of his little book, the favor of the prejudice in question.

Moreover, the acquisition of a correct pronunciation and the distinction of the gender of nouns being considered as causing great difficulties to those who undertake to learn the French, any effort tending to surmount these difficulties must be encouraged and welcomed by the *amateurs* of that beautiful *living* language.

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TREATISE

ON

FRENCH PRONUNCIATION AND GENDERS.

SECTION I.

ALPHABET—26 letters.

Aa.....	ah	Nn.....	cnn
Bb.....	bay	Oo.....	o
Cc.....	say	Pp.....	pay
Dd.....	day	Qq.....	ku
Ee.....	a	Rr.....	air
Ff.....	eff	Ss.....	ess
Gg (<i>g</i> like <i>s</i> in pleasure)	gay	Tt.....	tay
Hh.....	ash	Uu (must be heard from the teacher.)	
Ii.....	e	Vv.....	vay
Jj (<i>j</i> like <i>s</i> in pleasure)	jee	Xx.....	eeks
Kk.....	kah	Yy.....	egraik
Ll.....	ell	Zz.....	zed
Mm.....	emm		

The pupil must learn the French name of every letter, and use that name every time he has to spell or read a French word. This will give him, after a little practice, great facility in the correct pronunciation of French. On the contrary, if in spelling, for instance, the French words *ami*, *fable*, *vice*, *tube*, he names the letters in English, he will be in danger, through habit, to read *aimi*, *faible*, *vaïce*, *tioube*, which in French is, of course, a wrong pronunciation.

SECTION II.

SIMPLE VOWELS AND ACCENTS.

There are six simple vowels, *a, e, i, o, u, y*. Their sound is modified by three marks called in French, *accents*, which are placed over them, the *y* excepted.

These three marks or accents are short lines made in the following way :

(') Called *accent aigu*, acute accent.

(`) Called *accent grave*, grave accent.

(^)-Called *accent circonflexe*, circumflex accent.

Those accents render the vowels long, close or broad, in the following manner :

a—Without accent is sounded like *a* in the English word *mass*,—*la, ma, papa, anana*.

â—With the circumflex accent is long and broad, and it is sounded like *a* in the English words *barn, father*,—*mât, âme, blâme*.

é—With the acute accent is sounded like *ay* in *day* v.g., *été, café, pâté*.

è—With the grave accent has the broad sound of *ai* in the English word *air*, v.g.,—*père, ère, après*.

ê—With the circumflex accent is a little longer than the preceding, v.g.,—*être, tête, tempête*.

e—Without any accent over it is sometimes silent, sometimes not :

I. It is silent or very lightly heard, like *u* (very short) in *but*; first, when it is the final letter of a word, v.g.,—*me, te, père, &c.*; secondly, in the middle of words before one consonant, v.g., *rareté, repos*; thirdly, when it precedes a final *s* in polysyllabic words, v.g., *auières, modèles*, pronounced *amair, modell*—(more explanations and the exceptions will be given, Sect. XI, sixth sound).

II. The *e*, though without any accent, is sounded as if there was one over it, say like *e* in the English word *left*: First, before two consonants, v.g., *pervers, majesté, terre*, pronounce *pairvair, tairre*; secondly, when it precedes a final

consonant other than *s*, as *bref*, *effet*, pronounce *braif*, *effai*—(more explanations and the exceptions will be given, Sect. XI, fourth and fifth sounds), and Sect. IX, letters *mm* and *nn*.

i—Is sounded like *e* in the English word *me*, v.g., *midi*, *fini*, *timidité*.

î—With the circumflex accent is a little lengthened like two *ee* in *bee*, v.g., *épître*, *île*, *dîme*.

o—Without accent has nearly the sound of the same letter in the English word *nor*, v.g., *robe*, *école*, *porte*.

ô—With the circumflex accent has a broad and long sound, as *o* in the English words *go*, *note*, v.g., *dôme*, *dépôt*, *côte*.

u—This vowel has no similar sound in English, and must be heard from the master—especially a native. There is perhaps something of the French *u* in the sound of *w* in *sweet*, *tumulte*, *lune*, *unité*.

û—With the circumflex accent is longer than *u* without accent; *u* has a common length in *lune*, *uni*; but it is long in *brûler*, *flûte*, *mûr*.

y—This vowel is sounded like *i*, as *type*, pronounce *tipe*, in English *teepe*.

y—After another vowel and between two vowels, equals two *i*'s, v.g., *pays*, *payer*, pronounce *pai-i*, *pai-ié*, forming two syllables.

Every vowel with the corresponding French words given as examples, must be pronounced by the teacher and repeated by the pupil several times, until a correct pronunciation is acquired, as the vowel sounds may be considered as the foundation of a true pronunciation.

Observe—first, that the acute accent makes the *e* close, the grave accent makes it broad, the circumflex broad and long; secondly, that the circumflex accent renders the *a* and the *o* long and broad, but the *i* and the *u* only long.

The following exercises, especially the first, are to be read at first vertically and then horizontally.

EXERCISES

ON SIMPLE VOWELS AND ACCENTS.

I.

a as	â as	é as	è as	ê as	e as	i as	o as	ô as	u
a in	a in	a in	e in	e in	u in	c in	o in	o in	
far	barn	fate	ebb	there	tub	me	nor	go	
ba	bâ	bé	bè	bê	be	bi	bo	bô	bu
da	dâ	dé	dè	dê	de	di	do	dô	du
fa	fâ	fé	fè	fê	fe	fi	fo	fô	fu
la	lâ	lé	lè	lê	le	li	lo	lô	lu
ma	mâ	mé	mè	mê	me	mi	mo	mô	mu
pa	pâ	pé	pè	pê	pe	pi	po	pô	pu
ra	râ	ré	rè	rê	re	ri	ro	rô	ru
sa	sâ	sé	sè	sê	se	si	so	sô	su
ta	tâ	té	tè	tê	te	ti	to	tô	tu

II.

alarmé	élevé	mode	fidélité
âme	élève	pôle	du
bal	mère	porte	épître
blâme	bête	rôti	flûte
malade	témérité	type	style
mâle	re	te	ve

SECTION III.

COMPOUND VOWELS.

The sound of several of the simple vowels is often represented by two of the same vowels; for instance, *ai* represents the vowel *é*, *au* the vowel *ô*. We call those combinations, compound vowels, because there is one sound expressed by two letters.

ai—These two letters are pronounced like *é* with the acute accent, as *balai*, *mai*, *ferai*, pronounce *balé*, *mé*, *feré*.

When the compound vowel *ai* is followed by one of the letters *s*, *t*, *d*, it assumes the open sound of the *è* with the grave accent, as *avais*, *avait*, *laid*, are pronounced *avè*, *lè*.

ei—These two letters have the same sound as *è* with the grave accent, as *reine*, *baleine*, *peine*, are pronounced *rène*, *balène*, *pène*.

au, *eau*—These two compound vowels are pronounced like the *ô* with the circumflex accent, as *taux*, *autre*, *marteau*, *beau*, are pronounced *tô*, *ôtre*, *martô*, *bô*.

eu—These letters have nearly the sound of *u* in the English word *us*, or of *i* in *sir*. The *e* without accent, when lightly heard, partakes the sound of *eu*; in *ne*, *me*, *le*, the sound is very short; in *neu*, *meu*, *leu*, the sound has a common length.

Remark 1.—The letters *eu* are pronounced like *u* alone in the verb *avoir*, to have; *j'eus*, *j'eusse*, *eu*, are pronounced *j'u*, *j'usse*, *u*.

ou—These letters have the sound of *ou* in the word *you*, or of the double *oo* in *too*; *fou*, *coupe*, *route*, are pronounced *foo*, *coop*, *root*.

oi—These two letters have nearly the same sound as *wa* in *wash* or *water*, as *foi*, *boire*, *réservoir*; they form a diphthong, giving nearly the two sounds *ou-a*.

Remark 2.—The letters *ai*, *ei*, *au*, *eu*, *oi*, do not form a compound vowel when there is a diæresis over the second letter, or an accent over the *e*; then the two vowels are pronounced separately, and form two syllables, v.g., *hai*, *Saül*, *Maise*, *obéi*, *réussi*, are pronounced *ha-i*, *Sa-ul*, *Mo-ise*, *obé-i*, *ré-ussi*.

Remark 3.—*ai* and *ei* are also pronounced separately, and do not form a compound vowel when they precede two *ll* in the middle of words or one *l* final; for instance, the words *travaille*, *réveillé*, *travail*, *réveil*, are pronounced *trava-i-a*, *révé-i-é*, *trava-i*, *révé-i*; the *ll* are suppressed, and in the two last words you make long the *a* and the *e* preceding the *i*, and the *i* final very short. (This is fully explained Sect. VI., letters *il*, *ill*.)

EXERCISE

ON COMPOUND VOWELS.

aimai	laid	aube	ardeur	route
balai	mais	beau	neuf	vautour
ferai	plait	maudire	parleur	boire
lirai	trait	pauvre	peuple	droite
mai	baleine	roseau	boule	foi
ferais	reine	taureau	douleur	loisir
dirait	seine	bleu	moule	poire
lait	veine	feu	vous	voiture

EXCEPTIONS.—*Haï*, *obéi*, *Moïsc*, *travail*, *réveillé*.

SECTION IV.

NASAL SOUNDS.

There are four nasal vowels or sounds:—

An pronounced nearly as *en* in *encore*, or *an* in *sand*:
antre, *manteau*, *plante*.

In like *en* in the English word *length*, as *fin*, *vin*, *dessin*.

On like *on* in *song*, as *salon*, *montre*, *ton*.

Un nearly like *un* in *sunk*, as *brun*, *tribun*, *un*.

Each of those sounds is represented by several combinations; thus,

1. *An* is represented by

Am—*ample*, *rampe*.

Em—*emporter*, *membre*, *trembler*.

En—initial or in the middle of words when there is only one *n*, as *entendre*, *rendre*, *enfin*.

Ent—1. in nouns, as in *monument*; 2. in adjectives, as in *prudent*; 3. in adverbs, as in *bonnement*; but in the third person plural of verbs, *ent* is silent. *Ils parlent*,

they speak; *ils dorment*, they sleep; are pronounced, *ils parl*, *ils dorm*.

Ant as *aimant*, *parlant*, *partant*, *devant*.

2. *In* is represented by

Im—impie, timbre, impossible, limpide.

Ain—main, pain, ainsi, vain, plaintif.

Aim—faim, daim, essaim.

• *Ein*—frein, plein, peintre, sein, enfreindre.

En—when final generally preceded by *i* or *y*, as in *bien*, *citoyen*, *moyen*, *Phénicien*, *bien*, *le tien*.

Ym—nymphé, olympe, sympathie, symbole.

Yn—syntaxe, synthèse, syncope.

3. *On* is represented by

Om—nom, ombre, combat, tombeau, trompette.

Eon

Eons } pigeon, aiderons, prendront, feront.

Ont

4. *Un* is represented by

Um

Eun } humble, parfum, à jeun.

Add to those four the nasal diphthong *oin*, as *point*, *soin*, *besoin*.

EXCEPTIONS.—The nasal sound does not take place in two cases:—

1. Before two *nn* or two *mm*; in the words *innocent*, *immortal*, *bonne*, *somme*, the two *nn* and the two *mm* and the vowel preceding them are pronounced nearly as in English;

2. Before one *n* or one *m* when immediately followed by a vowel or an *h* mute, as in *inactif*, *inoccupé*, *inhabité*, *image*, *une*; in these words the *i* and the *n* or the *m* have their proper sound, and also *u* in the word *une*.

(The nasal sounds will be fully explained and exemplified in Section XI.)

SECTION V.

DIPHTHONGS.

The denomination of *Diphthong*, which is derived from the Greek, and signifies *double sound*, is a syllable in which two vowel sounds are uttered with one impulse of the voice. In the diphthong *lia* we hear the two simple sounds *i* and *a*; in the word *joueur*, the two compound sounds *ou* and *eu*; in *lion*, the simple vowel *i* and the nasal vowel *on*.

So that when the pupils are well acquainted with the distinct sound of vowels, simple, compound and nasal, they will not have much difficulty to pronounce the diphthongs, which are but the combination of two of those sounds.

I deem it, however, useful to give here a table of the principal diphthongs, and I recommend the teacher to make the pupils pronounce very distinctly, several times, each diphthong, the two sounds represented by it very closely together, and the examples following the sounds.

Table of Diphthongs, with their Sounds and Examples.

Diphthongs.	Their sounds.	Examples.
<i>ai</i>	<i>a-i</i>	bail, bataillon, travail, travailla:
before <i>l</i>	}	in <i>bail</i> , <i>travail</i> , make <i>a</i> long, <i>i</i> short, drop <i>l</i> .
or <i>ll</i>		
<i>ei</i>	<i>e-i</i>	sommeil, soleil, <i>e</i> long, <i>i</i> short, drop <i>l</i> .
before <i>l</i>	}	réveilla, sommeilla.
or <i>ll</i>		
<i>ia</i>	<i>i-a</i>	il délia, se fia; diacre, diable.
<i>ian</i>	<i>i-an</i>	viande, alliance, mendiant.
<i>iai</i>	<i>i-é</i>	je défiai, je déliai, je priai.
	or <i>i-è</i>	je défiais, il pliait, tu niais.
<i>ie</i>	}	pitié, tièdeur, officier, crêpe, aviez.
<i>ier</i>		
<i>iez</i>		
<i>ien</i>	<i>i-in</i>	(when final) rien, le mien, je tiens.
<i>ien</i>	<i>i-an</i>	(when not final) audience, expérience.
<i>ieu</i>	<i>i-eu</i>	adieu, curieuse, glorieux, mieux.

Diphthongs.	Their sounds.	Examples.
<i>io</i>	<i>i-o</i>	idiot, violon, médiocre, patriote.
<i>ion</i>	<i>i-on</i>	lion, nous rions, passion, nation.
<i>oi</i>	<i>ou-a</i>	moi, toilette, étroite, avoir, voir.
<i>oin</i>	<i>ou-in</i>	soin, témoin, pointe, moindre.
<i>oue</i>	<i>ou-é</i>	jouer, enrôlé, avoué, noyer.
	<i>or ou-è</i>	jouet, fouetter, ouest, brouette.
<i>ouai</i>	<i>ou-é</i>	je jouai, je dénouai, je trouai.
	<i>or ou-è</i>	je jouais, je dénouais, il trouait.
<i>oui</i>	<i>ou-i</i>	jour, réjouissance, enfoui, Louis.
<i>ouan</i>	<i>ou-an</i>	louange, trouant, vouant, avouant.
<i>oueu</i>	<i>ou-eu</i>	nouveaux, boueux, joueur.
<i>ouon</i>	<i>ou-on</i>	louons, jouons, nouons.
<i>ua</i>	<i>u-a</i>	il remua, salua, nuage.
<i>uant</i>	<i>u-ant</i>	nuances, saluant, remuant.
<i>uai</i>	<i>u-é</i>	je saluai, je remuai, je tuai.
	<i>or u-è</i>	je saluais, il remuait, il tuait.
<i>ué</i>	<i>u-é</i>	} denué, nuée, huer, éternuer.
<i>or uer</i>	<i>u-è</i>	
<i>ui</i>	<i>u-i</i>	depuis, conduire, autrui, fluide.
<i>uin</i>	<i>u-in</i>	juin, suinter, quinquagésime.
<i>uo</i>	<i>u-o</i>	impétuosité, monstruosité.
<i>uon</i>	<i>u-on</i>	tuons, continuons, remuons.
<i>ueu</i>	<i>u-eu</i>	majestueux, leur, impétueuse.

SECTION VI.

COMBINATIONS OF CONSONANTS WITH VOWELS.

I.

LETTERS C, G, J, Q.

C has the hard sound of *k* before *a*, *o*, *u*, cabane, corde, cuve, and before a consonant, clore, croire, crier.

c has the sound of *s*, called soft sound before *e*, *i*, *y*, ceci, cilice, cypres.

c is also soft before *a*, *o*, *u*, when there is a cedilla (*ç*) under it, as in façade, leçon, reçu.

c sounds like *g* in second and derivative, seconder, secondement.

G has the hard sound, as in the English word *go* before *a*, *o*, *u*, *garde*, *golfe*, guttural, and also before a consonant, *gros*, *glace*, &c.

g has the sound of *s* in the English word *pleasure* before *e*, *i*, *y*, as in *gémir*, *gîte*, *gymnase*.

g followed by *u* has always the hard sound of *g* in *go*, as in *guérir*, *guirlande*, *langue*, *naviguer*. In those words *u* is silent; it serves only to give the hard sound to the *g*. But the *u* is distinctly sounded in the words *arguer*, *aiguille*, *aiguiseur*, *linguiste*, *ambiguïté*, *exiguïté*, *contiguïté*, *consanguinité*, and *DeGuise* (proper name.) &c.

gu is sounded *gou* in *lingual*, *Guadeloupe*, *Guadalquivir*, *Guatimala*.

In the words *ciguë*, *ambiguë*, *contiguë*, *exiguë*, *u* is sounded, *e* is mute.

J is soft before every vowel, and has the sound of *s* in *pleasure*, as in *jardin*, *jeter*, *joie*, *juge*.

Q, except in the two words, *cinq* and *coq*, is always followed by *u*, and it is pronounced like *c* hard, or *k*: then *u* is generally silent, as in *qualité*, *quë*, *que*, *quitter*, pronounce *kalité*, *ké*, *ke*, *kitter*.

In the following words, *u* after *q* is not silent; in the words of the first list, *qu* is pronounced *cu*; and in the second list *qu* is pronounced *cou*.

1st List.

Equitation.
Equiangle.
Equidistant.
Equestre.
Equilatéral.
Equimultiple.
Liquéfier.
Liquéfaction.
Questeur.
Quiétisme.

2nd List.

Equateur.
Quadrupède.
Quadruple.
Quaterne.
Quadragénnaire.
Quadrangulaire.
Aquatique.
Equation.
Loquacité.

EXERCISES.

1

ca	cé	ce	ci	co	cu
gua	gué	gue	gui	quo	cu
qua	qué	que	qui	guo	gu
ga	gé	ge	gi	go	ju
ja	jé	je	ji	ço	cru
era	eré	de	cri	jo	gru
gra	glé	gre	gli	gro	

2

carte	cécité	quiconque	concorde
quaterze	guérir	quotidien	cubique
gardé	général	gigot	reçu
conjugua	guéridon	juge	maçon
liguons	conjugué	guide	gorge
façade	joujou	barque	Job
jamais	crédit	jeton	croyant
cravate	agréer	grenier	grosse
gravité	cycle	gymnase	jujube

Exceptions:—Aquatique, questeur, équitation, quadrupède.

II.

LETTERS CH.

These two letters are pronounced like *sh* in English; so that the combinations *cha*, *ché*, *chi*, *cho*, *chu*, are pronounced in French as if written in English *shah*, *shay*, *shee*, *sho*, *shu*: v. g., *charité*, *cheval*, *chimie*, *chose*, *chûte*, *charade*, *moustache*, *machine*.

But *ch* is pronounced *k* in some words derived from Greek, Hebrew or Latin, v. g., *archange*, *archiépiscope*, *anachorète*, *catéchumène*, *chaos*, *chœur*, *choriste*, *chorus*, *écho*, *eucharistie*, *orchestre*, *Cham*, *Chanaan*, *Chaldée*, *Chersonèse*, *Charon*, *Bacchus*, *Nabuchodonosor*, &c.

However *ch* is sounded *sh* in *archevêque*, *archevêché*, *archipel*, *archiprêtre*, *Achéron*, *Achille*, *Ezéchiél*, *Michée*, *Rachel*, *Sichem*, *Zachée*.

Ch is also sounded *k* before a consonant, v. g., *anachronisme*, *Christ*, *chrétien*, *chronique*, *chronomètre*, *chrysolide*, *drachme*, &c., in *Machiavel*, *Michel-Ange*, *Sancho*, *yacht*, and in the names of the following cities, *Munich*, *Utrecht*, *Zurich*.

Observe that there are two kinds of *h*; *h* mute, which is not meant at all in the pronounciation, and *h* aspirate, which is pronounced with a very light aspiration (more explanations are given Sect. IX, letter *h*).

EXERCISE.

acharné
branche
blancheur
charité
chercher
chêne
chimie
choc

choisis
choufleur
chuchoter
chyle
échauffer
enchanté
mouchoir
manchon

prochain
richesse
enrichir
retranchèrent
tranchet
rocher
rûche
chien

III.

LETTERS GN.

These two letters are sounded as in the words *mignonne*, *bagnio*, *vignette*, v. g., *magnanime*, *accompagné*, *ignorance*; *gn* form a syllable with the following vowel, thus *ma-gna-ni-me*, *i-gno-rance*, &c.

This sound is called *soft* by some grammarians, *liquid* by some others; it is pretty hard to be acquired, and must be heard frequently from the teacher.

In a few words *gn* has the hard sound which is given by the same letters in *ignorant* pronounced in English, as *igné*, *ignition*, *stagnant*, *stagnation*, *inexpugnable*, *gnide*, *agnus*. In these words *g* forms a syllable with the preceding vowel, and *n* forms another syllable with the following vowel, thus, *stag-nant*, *ig-né*, &c., and then *g* has the hard sound of *c*.

EXERCISE.

agneau	Espagnol	mignonette
Allemagne	gagnant	peigne
compagnon	ignoble	poignard
champignon	ignorance	seigneur
cygne	ligne	signal
dignité	magnanime	vignette
daigna	magnifique	vigneron

Exceptions:—Igné, ignition, stagnant.

IV.

LETTERS IL, ILL.

Combinations: ail, eil, œil, euil, ouil, &c., at the end of words.

Combinations: aill, eill, ill, ouill, &c., in the middle of words.

In the preceding combinations *l* final or *ll* in the middle of words are in French pronounced in two ways, either of which is correct. In the first way, *l* or *ll* are sounded as in the English words William, brilliant.—See Exercise I, below. They are called *mouillées* (liquid) from their smooth and flowing sound.

In the second way *l* final or *ll* in the middle of words are, we may say, suppressed; taking, for instance, *tailleur*, decompose it thus, ta-i-eur, give to those three sounds the French pronunciation, squeezing them closely together; *travailla*, *sommeillé*, are pronounced trava-i-a, sommé-i-é, sounding the *i* rapidly. In *bail*, *réveil*, after dropping the *l* make *a* and *e* long, and *i* final very short.—See Exercise II, hereafter.

But it is very important to notice that when the *ll* are followed by *e* called silent, you must sound that *e* lightly after the suppression of *ll*, and replace the *ll* by the sound of *y* in *you*, which must be heard before *e*; thus, *filles*, *paille*, *raillerie*, are pronounced fi-ye, pa-i-ye, ra-i-ye-rie.—See Exercise III.

The second pronunciation is mostly used in conversation, the first in public. I advise to adopt the second, especially at the end of words, for fear that the foreign learner might be in danger to pronounce for instance, *bail* *baïl*, *fillo*, *fil*.

EXCEPTIONS. — In the following words the *ll* have neither of the two sounds just explained. In the first double list one *l* only is heard with its own sound; in the second list the two *ll* are heard with their natural sound.

1st list.

ville	codicille
village	campanille
pupille	sibylle
Achille	fibrille
imbécille	mille
tranquille	Gille

2nd list.

illétré	illusion
illimité	illigible
illégal	osciller
illégitime	oscillation
illicite	scintiller
illuminé	vaciller
illustre	

EXERCISE I,

In which *l* or *ll* are sounded as in William.

bail	grenouilles
bataillon	grille
bouteille	haillon
brillant	orgueilleux
caille	paillage
coquillage	maillé
cueillir	muraille
dépouiller	sillon
écureuil	tourbillon
feuilles	Versailles

EXERCISE II,

In which *l* or *ll* are suppressed in pronouncing.

bail	pronounce	ba-i	} a long i very short by one emission of voice
portail	"	porta-i	
émail	"	éma-i	
travail	"	trava-i	

pareil	pronounce	paré-i	} é long i very short by one emission of the voice
sommeil	"	sommé-i	
vermeil	"	vermé-i	
bouillon	"	bou-i-on	} i must be sounded rapidly
bataillon	"	bata-i-on	
brouillard	"	brou-i-ard	
chatouilla	"	chatou-i-a	
meilleur	"	mé-i-eur	
oreiller	"	oré-i-é	

EXERCISE III,

In which *U* are sounded as *y* in *you*, and the following *e* lightly heard.

canaille	pronounce	cana-i-ye:	} a long i short
funérailles	"	funéra-i-yo	
grille	"	gri-ye	} i long
famille	"	fami-ye	
oreille	"	oré-i-yo	} e long i short
pareille	"	paré-i-ye	
artillerie	"	art-i-ye-rie	} i long ye rapid
travaillerais	"	trava-i-ye-rai	

V.

LETTERS TI.

Combinations: *tion*, *tie*, *tial*, *tiel*, *tient*, *tien*, *tieux*, &c.

The consonant *t* followed by *i* is generally pronounced in French like *c* soft; *ti* is sounded *ci*, this happens generally in the following combinations:

Tion—*ti* is pronounced as *ci*, v.g., *action*, *ablution*, *addition*, *affection*, *ambition*, *caution*, *cautionner*, *conviction*, *déduction*, *émotion*, *munition*, *nation*, *ration*, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—The exceptions take place when *t* is preceded by *s* or *x*; then *t* has its natural sound, as in *bastion*, *combustion*, *congestion*, *digestion*, *mixtion*, *question*, &c.

Ti—*ti* pronounced like *ci*; as in *aristocratie*, *démocratie*, *théocratie*, *diplomatie*, *calvitie*, *facétie*, *impéritie*, *inertie*, *minutie*, *péripétie*, *primatie*, *prophétie*, *argutie*, *suprématie*, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—*Ti* is sounded with its natural sound; 1st, in *partie*, *repartie*, *garantie*, *modestie*, *dynastie*, *hostie*, *amnistie*, *ortie*, *eucharistie*, *épizootie*; 2nd, in the past participle feminine of verbs ending with *tir* in the infinitive, as *bâtie*, *sentie*, *consentie*, *rôtie*, *sortie*, *partie*, *déméntie*, &c.; 3rd, in all the inflections of the verb *châtier*, to *chastise*, as *je châtie*, *je châtierai*, *châties*, *ils châtient*, &c.

Tial } *ti* is sounded *ci* in *partial*, *martial*, *partialité*, *par-*
and }
Tiel } *tiel*, *essentiel*, *confidentiel*, *confidentiellement*, &c.

Tient—*ti* like *ci* in *patient*, *quotient*, *impatienter*, &c., pronounced *pa-ci-an*, *co-ci-an*, &c.

Tien *patience*, pronounced *pa-ci-ance*.

Tien (final) pronounced *ci-in* as *Vénitien*, *Béotien*, *Egyptien*, *Dioclétien*, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—In *chrétien*, *chrétienté*, *ti* has its natural hard sound.

Tieux—*ti* like *ci*, as in *captieux*, *ambitieux*, &c.

Ti—*ti* is pronounced *ci* in all the inflections of the two verbs, *balbutier*, to stammer; *initier*, to initiate, as *je balbutie*, *tu balbuties*, *il balbutie*, *nous balbutions*, *vous balbutiez*, *ils balbutient*; *j'initiais*, *tu initiais*, *il initiait*, *nous inititions*, *vous initiez*, *ils initiaient*, &c., *initié*, *initiée*, *initières*, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—In several nouns, as *amitié*, *moitié*, *pitié*, *altier*, *métier*, *t* has its natural sound.

Finally, for the pronunciation of *ti* in the preceding combinations, this general rule may be established. "When *ti* in the English words is pronounced *sh*, giving the sound of *h* in French, for instance, *action*, *acshun*, then *ti* in the French corresponding words is sounded *ci*, *action*, *ac-cion*."

VI.

LE AND RE (FINAL).

Combinations: ble, bre, cle, cre, dre, fle, fre, gre, gle, ple, pre, tre, &c.

In the English language the terminations *ble*, *bre*, are pronounced as if the *e* was placed between *b* and *l*, or *b* and *r*, thus, table *tabel*, acre *aker*. By the force of habit English learners are inclined to pronounce in French the same final as in English. But in French the two consonants are heard before the *e* which is itself hardly heard, having something of *u* in *but*; therefore, this rule may be laid down: "Pronounce in French the consonants preceding *e* obtuse, v. g., ble, bre, cle, cre, &c., as you would pronounce the same consonants in English at the beginning of words, as *bl* in blame, *cre* in credit, &c.

1.

ble possible, do not pronounce	bul	but bl initials of	blunt
bre arbre,	bur	br	brunt
cle article,	cul	cl	club
cre acre,	cur	cr	crup
gle angle,	gul	gl	glum
ple peuple,	pul	pl	pluck
pre propre,	pur	pr	prude

2.

aimable	ordre	maigre
impossible	poudre	ample
noble	prendre	couple
arbre	souffle	simple
marbre	buffle	peuple
ombre	offre	pampré
article	souffre	propre
boucle	angle	autre
miracle	avengle	centre
nacre	ongle	couvre
sucré	aigre	ouvre

SECTION VII.

FINAL CONSONANTS.

The subject of this section is as difficult as it is important. In French many final consonants are silent, others are not; and even those which are called silent are not so before a word commencing with a vowel or *h* mute; on the contrary they are sometimes so much articulated with the following word that they seem to belong to that word, as will be thoroughly explained in the next section. Euphony and facility of pronunciation are intended in these two cases; in the first, by retrenching from the number of consonants which, by coming in contact, might produce a harsh sound; in the second, by preventing an unpleasant meeting of vowel sounds.

The final consonants* are, therefore, divided in two classes; those which are sounded, and those which are not.

CLASS I.

CONSONANTS SOUNDED WHEN FINAL.

Those are *c*, *f*, *l*, and also *r*, except when that letter is preceded by *e* in polysyllabic words.

C final is sounded, as in *sac*, *lac*, *bac*, *cognac*, *bec*, *avec*, *éche*, *pic*, *roc*, *duc*, *aqueduc*, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—*C* is silent, 1st, when preceded by *n*, as *banc*, *blanc*, *jonc*, *tronc*, &c.; 2nd, in *tabac*, *almanach*, *lacs* (snare), *arc-boutant*, *clerc*, *échecs* (plural), *cric*, *croc*, *escroc*, *racroc*, *broc*, *porc*.

C is sounded in *franc-étourdi*, *franc-étrier*, *croc-en-jambe*, *porc-épic*; *c* is sounded in *donc* when that word commences a phrase or a member of phrase, as: *donc vous avez tort*; *je pense, donc j'existe*; in other cases, it is *ad libitum*, (may be sounded or not).

F is sounded at the end of words, which, according to *Levizac*, amount to nearly 260, as in *bref*, *chef*, *nerf*, *serf*, *vif*, *natif*, *neuf*, *veuf*, *œuf*, *bœuf*, &c.

Before a vowel or *h* mute, *f* is sounded *v*, which is carried to the next vowel, *neuf enfants*, (nine children,) is pronounced *neuv enfants*.

EXCEPTIONS.—A final *f* is silent in *clef*, *cerf*, *chef-d'œuvre*, and in the plural *nerfs*, *œufs*, *bœufs*. In the number *neuf* (nine), *f* is silent before a consonant, *neuf livres* (nine books), is pronounced *neu livres*. However, *f* in *neuf*, is sounded before the months, *le neuf Janvier*, *le neuf Septembre*, &c.

L final is sounded, as in *général*, *bal*, *cheval*, *bel*, *réel*, *sel*, *il*, *fil*, *sol*, *nul*, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—*L* is silent in *fusil*, *outil*, *sourcil*, *gril*, *baril*, *persil*, *gentil*, and *fils* (son), pronounce *fisse* or *fi*, (both ways are correct). *L* is also silent in *pouls*, *gentils-hommes*; pronounced *pou*, *genti-zommes*.

R final, is sounded after *a*, *i*, *o*, *u*, as in *car*, *par*, *finir*, *punir*, or, *essor*, *dur*, *obscur*; except in *monsieur*, pronounced *mo-sieu*.

But after *e*, *r* final is silent, as it will be seen in the next class of consonants hereafter, and the cases are very numerous, as in *donner*, *chapelier*, *oranger*, &c.

However, *r* final is sounded after *e* in the following words:

cher	hiver	Lucifer
fer	cuiller	Magister
fier	enfer	pater
mer	cancer	gaster
ver	éthér	Jupiter
tiers	Belvédér	hier

CLASS II.

CONSONANTS NOT SOUNDED WHEN FINAL.

Those are *d*, *g*, *p*, *s*, *t*, *x*, *z*, and also *r* after *e*.

D final is not sounded, as in *grand*, *gond*, *marchand*, *pied*, *nid*, *second*, *nœud*, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—*D* final is sounded in proper names, as, *Alfred*, *David*, *Gad*, *Obed*, and also in *Cid*, *Talmud*, *Sund* (Straits), *le Sud*.

G final is not sounded, as in sang, rang, long, hareng, bourg, étang, poing, seing, vingt, &c.

EXCEPTION.—*G* is sounded in joug.

P final not sounded, as in camp, drap, trop, beaucoup, loup, coup, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—*P* is sounded in cap, Alep, gap, cep, (vine stock).

R final is silent after the vowel *e*; and the cases, which are very numerous, take place

1. In verbs of the 1st conjugation which end by *er* in the infinitive,

as	aimer	pronounced	aimé
	donner	"	donné
	chanter	"	chanté
	parler	"	parlé

2. In words expressing a trade or occupation,

as	chapelier	pronounced	chapelié
	cordonnier	"	cordonné
	boulangier	"	boulangé
	épiciier	"	épicié

3. In names of trees,

as	pommier	pronounced	pommié
	poirier	"	poirié
	cerisier	"	cerisié
	groseiller	"	groseillé

4. In other words,

as	officier	pronounced	officié
	conseiller	"	conseillé
	verger	"	vergé

S final is silent as in,

bas	pronounced	ba.
compas	"	compa
après	"	aprè
refus	"	refu
tapis	"	tapi
nous rions	"	nou rion

EXCEPTIONS.—*S* is sounded in *maïs*, *vis*, *métis*, *bis* (twice), *gratis*, *Iris*, *aloës*, *Cérès*, *cens*, *atlas*, *blocus*, *en sus*, *mœurs*, *prospectus*, *fœtus*, *sens*, *tous* (taken substantively), *Rheims* (city), *Mars*, *Rubens*, *Gil-Blas*, *Stanislas*; and in proper names from Latin or Greek, *Brutus*, *Phœbus*, *Romulus*, *Pâris*, *Adonis*, *Lesbos*, *Minos*, *Delos*, *pathos*, &c., and generally in words coming from foreign languages, dead or living.

S is silent in *Judas*, *Nicolas*, *Thomas*, *Paris* (city).

T final is silent, as in,

but	pronounced	bu
complet	"	complé
court	"	cour
défaut	"	défaul
sort	"	sor

EXCEPTIONS.—*T* final is sounded in the following words :

apt	suspect	brut	vivat
exact	est	chut	tacet
fat	ouest	indult	deficit
rapt	entre le zist	lut (lute)	introit
abject	et le zest	luth (instrument)	preterit
correct	dot	occiput	
fret	strict	(others pure Latin)	
lest	zénith	exeat	
net	verdict	transeat	

1. In the holy name of *Christ*, *s* and *t* are sounded, but both letters are silent in *Jésus-Christ*, *ante-Christ*, pronounced *Jésu-chri*, *ante-chri*.

2. In *sept* and *huit*, *t* is sounded, except before plural nouns beginning with a consonant, v.g., *sept chevaux*, *huit maisons*, pronounced *sè chevaux*, *hui maisons*. However, *t* is sounded in *sept*, *huit*, before the months, though beginning with a consonant, v.g., *le sept Janvier*, *le huit Février*, &c.

3. In *vingt* *t* is silent, but it is sounded before a vowel, v.g., *vingt enfants*, *vingt et un*. However, *t* is sounded (rapidly) in *vingt-deux*, *vingt-trois*, up to *vingt-neuf*, inclusively. Finally, *t* is silent in *quatre-vingt-un*, *quatre-vingt-deux*, *quatre-vingt-trois*, and so forth, up to *quatre-vingt-dix-neuf*, inclusively.

T is always silent in the conjunction *et*.

X final is silent, as in *voix, choix, doux, heureux, prix, &c.*, pronounced *voi, choi, dou, heureu, pri*.

EXCEPTIONS.—*X* is sounded in *index, perplex, préfix, phénix, lynx, sphinx, larynx, climax, thorax*; in proper names, *Ajax, Astyanax, Halifax, Pertinax, Béatrix, Félix, Fox, Styx, Pollux, &c.*

X is sounded like *ss* in the numbers *six, dix, dix-sept*, pronounced *sisse, disse, disse-sept*; *x* is pronounced *z* in *dix-huit, dix-neuf, dix-huitième, dix-neuvième*. In *six, dix, x* is silent before plural nouns beginning with a consonant, v.g., *six pommes, dix poires*, pronounce *si pommes, di poires*; but *x* is sounded *ss* before the months, v.g., *le dix Février, le six Novembre*, pronounce *le disse Février, le sisse Novembre, &c.*

Z final is silent as in *assez, nez, chanterez, &c.*, pronounced *assé, né, chanteré*.

EXCEPTIONS.—*Z* is sounded in *gaz*, and the proper names *Metz, Rhodéz* (cities), and in Spanish names *Alvarez, Juarez, Suez, &c.*

FINAL LETTERS, *m, n, b, q*.

M and *n* final have a peculiar sound, treated at the Sections IV. and XI., called nasal sound, except in proper names, though *m* is nasal in *Adam*.

B final has very few cases. It is silent only in *plomb* (lead), *aplomb* (perpendicular); it is sounded in proper names, as *Job, Caleb, Moab, &c.*

Q is final only in the two words *cinq, coq*, in which it is sounded; but *q* is silent in *cinq* before plural nouns commencing with a consonant, as in *cinq francs, cinq maisons*; *q* is also silent in *coq-d'inde* (turkey).

IMPORTANT REMARKS.

I. When they say that in French, the final consonant of a word is silent, they mean that it is so; firstly, when it precedes another word beginning with a consonant, or *h* called aspirate; secondly, when it precedes any sign of punctuation. But if a consonant, termed silent, precedes a word beginning with a vowel or *h* mute, without any mark of punctuation between the two words, then that consonant is no more silent in most cases, and it is generally carried to the initial vowel of the next word, the two words being closely connected, as will be explained in the following section.

II. As for the consonants of the first class of this section which are sounded when final, it is understood that they are always sounded, as well before words commencing with a consonant as before those commencing with a vowel. There are, however, a few exceptions, which will be pointed out in their proper place.

SECTION VIII.

RULES FOR JOINING THE FINAL CONSONANT OF A WORD WITH THE INITIAL VOWEL OF THE NEXT WORD.

Among the general rules of French pronunciation prefixed to some of the French Grammars published in America, we read the following: "For the junction of the final consonant of a word with the initial vowel of the next word, there is no other reason than *euphony*." That assertion is erroneous in its generality, and only liable to confuse the pupils. There are, in fact, several cases in which, (a very few words excepted,) the junction of a final consonant with the following vowel is *necessary*, independently of euphony, on account of the close connection of the two words respecting their signification and meaning. Out of those cases, which we are carefully going to point out, euphony, it is true, may be taken as a general rule; in other words, the junction then is made if euphony is not impaired.

This section, as well as the preceding one, is very important. It requires great attention from the pupils, and must be explained with method and clearness.

At first, let the learner have a correct idea of the French *liaison*, or junction of the final consonant of a word with the initial vowel of the next word. In that case the two words are so closely united that, in hearing them, you might suppose that there is but one word.

This will be elucidated by a few examples. In the two words *mes amis* (my friends), the *s* of *mes* is carried to the vowel of *amis*, and the words are pronounced as if they were spelt *mé-zamis*; so that the *s* (which in this case has the sound of *z*) seems to form for the ear a syllable with the first vowel of *amis*. *Ces enfants* (those children), is pronounced as if spelt *cè-zenfants*. In the two words *mon oncle* (my uncle), *n* of *mon* is not nasal, as it is in *mon père*, but it is carried to the next word, and the words are pronounced as if spelt *mo-noncle*. *Tendrement aimé* (tenderly loved), pronounced *tendrement aimé*.

Observe, firstly—that when a final *s* is carried to the next vowel it has the sound of *z*, as *mes amis*, *mez amis*; that *d* has the sound of *t*, *grand ami*, *grant ami*; that *g* has that of *c*, *sang humain*, *sanc humain*; that *x* has that of *z*, *heureux enfant*, *heureux enfant*.

Observe, secondly, that when *h* is mute at the beginning of a word, it does not prevent the junction of the final consonant of the preceding word with the vowel following *h*; for instance, *grand homme*, pronounced *gran-tomme*.

But when *h* is what is called *aspirate*, the junction cannot take place; for instance, *grand héros* is pronounced *gran-héro*. The aspiration in French is very light, and “it is sufficiently observed if you do not pronounce the consonant preceding *h* aspirate, or if you do not drop the vowel preceding that *h*” (d’Olivet): for instance, *a* in *la*, and *e* in *le*, *de*, *je*, *me*, *té*, *que*, and in other words. Thus *h* being aspirate in *honte*, *héros*, you write *la honte*, *le héros*; but *h* being silent in *homme*, *honneur*, you write *l’homme*, *l’honneur*, instead of *le homme*, *le honneur*. Likewise in *grand homme* you carry *d* to the next word,

becau
d, be
Th
Th
another
clisio
press
At
and h
most
with

When
the
obb
Th
when
Th
I.
adject

l
c
s
l
c
s
Th
are us
in a p
II.
jective

h
h
c
g

because *h* is silent; but in *grand héros* you do not sound *d*, because the following *h* is aspirate.

The suppression of *a* or *e* final letter of a word preceding another word commencing with a vowel or *h* mute, is called *elision*. An apostrophe takes the place of the letter suppressed.

At the letter *h*, next section, more explanation on *h* mute and *h* aspirate will be found; and also a list of words the most used, beginning with *h* mute, and of those beginning with *h* aspirate.

I.

When the junction of the final consonant of a word with the next word commencing with a vowel or *h* mute is *obligatory*.

This mark (·) is adopted here between the two words when they must be joined together.

That junction must take place—

I. Between the articles and the following nouns or adjectives:

EXAMPLES.

les affaires
des engagements
aux empereurs
les hommes
des historiens.
aux humains

les affligés
des imprudents
aux ennemis
un ange
un homicide

These cases are numerous, because in French articles are used before nouns taken in a general sense, as well as in a particular sense.

II. Between adjectives preceding nouns; be the adjectives

1. Qualificative.

beaux oiseaux
bon historien
cher enfant
grand hypocrite

vieux amis
petit agneau
petits êtres
mauvais écolier

FRENCH PRONUNCIATION.

2. *Possessive.*

mon usage
mes intérêts
ton emploi
son hôtel
tes idées
son arbre

son héritier
ses occupations
leur ardeur
leur honneur
leurs offres

3. *Demonstrative.*

cet animal
cet habit

ces instrumens

III. Between pronouns subject or object of verbs :

EXAMPLES.

nous avons
vous avez
ils ont
les avez-vous

prenez en
on a dit
vous habiterez
ils honorent

IV. Between adverbs and the following adjectives or participles :

EXAMPLES.

fort aimable
bien attentif
extrêmement agréable
plus obéissant
nullement aimé

trop heureux
trop envieux
il n'est pas arrivé
elle n'est point averti
en entrant

V. Between numbers and nouns :

EXAMPLES.

un idiot
deux animaux
cinq hommes
six enfants
sept oranges

huit arbres
huit heures
dix huit Indiens
vingt officiers
deux et un font-trois

" VI. Between most of prepositions and their object :

EXAMPLES.

après_avoir	pour_arriver
avec_eux	sans_attention
devant_elle	par_ici
chez_un-ami	sous_un_arbre
dans_un-an	en_Angleterre

VII. And also in such expressions as—c'est à-dire, c'est à-croire, c'est à-savoir, de temps_en temps, de mieux_en mieux, tout_à coup, tout_à l'heure, tout_autant, tout_au plus, vis_à-vis, de fond_en comble, de pied_en cap, un pied_à terre, &c.

II.

When the junction of the final consonant of a word with the following word beginning with a vowel or *h* mute, is subordinate to *euphony*.

I. The meeting of the final vowel of a word with the initial vowel of the next word, produces in the pronunciation an unpleasant sound, called *hiatus*, a Latin word which means an *opening*, the mouth being kept open in uttering the two vowels, as it would be in the following words : *la ame, la amitié*. The French prevent that disagreeable and nearly ridiculous sound by different ways.

1. They drop the *a* of *la*, the *e* of *le, de, je, me, te, se, ne, que, jusque*, &c. ; the *i* of *si*, when the words come before a vowel or *h* mute, putting an apostrophe at the place of the vowel cut off : and they call that change *elision*, as it has been already said.

EXAMPLES.

l'âme	instead of	la ame
l'amitié	"	la amitié
l'histoire	"	la histoire
l'indigne conduite	"	la indigne conduite
l'esprit	"	le esprit
parole d'honneur	"	parole de honneur

j'ai	instead of	je ai
je t'aime	"	je te aime
ils m'appellent	"	ils me appellent
je crois qu'il vient	"	je crois que il vient
s'il vous plait	"	si il vous plait

2. They place a *t* called *euphonic*, i. e. favorable to pronunciation, between the verb and the pronouns, *il, elle, on*, in interrogative sentences, when the verb ends with a vowel, as *a-t-il, parle-t-elle, parle-t-on*, and also a euphonic *l* after *si*, as *si l'on veut*, instead of *si on veut*.

3. A final *e* unaccented; which is the vowel most frequently found, is elided, in pronouncing, with the initial vowel of next word; and thus euphony is favored to a great extent.

EXAMPLES.

sérieuse attention	pronounced	sérieu-zattention
femme imprudente	"	fem-mimprudente
imprudente amie	"	impruden-tamie

4. It is also for the sake of euphony they admit, as a general rule, that "a final consonant of a word is very often carried to the initial vowel of the next word."

II. But if the principle of *joining the final consonant to the next vowel* were carried too far, it would injure euphony instead of serving it. This is the reason why, except the cases in which the meaning of several words requires that *junction*, as it has been seen in the first article of this Section, they do not allow the junction of the final consonant with the next vowel, when euphony would be affected by it. For that purpose that principle is counteracted by another, viz: "if in two or more words of the same phrase placed close to each other, there are several consonants of the same kind, producing unpleasant sounds, as several *s*'s giving too many hissing sounds, several *t*'s too many dental sounds, &c., then you pronounce, of course, the *s*'s or the *t*'s which are initial or in the middle of words, but not the final." For instance in this phrase, "*nos agents agissent pour nos intérêts*," there are too many

hissing sounds: do not pronounce the final *s* of *agents*; but you cannot avoid sounding the *s* in *nos* repeated, because it is between an adjective and a noun, which it determines: "*Ils ont apporté trente-trois tonnes de sucre,*"—there are too many *t's* in this phrase, do not sound the final *t* of *ont*.

Observe that, besides euphony forbidding sometimes the junction of a final consonant to the next vowel, there is also the case when an ambiguous or ridiculous meaning would result from that junction. For instance, "*un homme grand et fort,*" (a man tall and strong),—if you carry the *d* of *grand* to the *e* of *et*, you give to the hearer the meaning *grand effort*, (great effort), you must say "*gran et fort.*"

Note I.—In the following phrases, when the final consonant must be carried to the next vowel, or to *h* mute, this sign () is used between the two words, and when the final consonant must be silent, the cipher (0) is placed over it.

Note II.—The final consonants are carried to the next vowel more frequently in public speaking than in conversation.

Note III.—When *n* final is carried to the next vowel it loses its nasal sound, and retains its natural sound; *n* is carried to the next vowel, principally in the following monosyllables: *mon, ton, son, bon, on, en.*

FIRST SERIES.

Phrases in which the final consonant is carried to the next word, according to *euphony* or clearness of meaning.

d—1. Vous devez faire un grand effort.

You must make a great effort.

2. Vous me direz quand il viendra.

You will tell me when he comes.

g—3. Le sang humain versé crie vengeance.

Human blood shed, cries revenge.

n—4. Mon enfant fait mon honneur

My child is my honor.

p—5. Cet homme est trop envieux.

That man is too envious.

- s—6. Nous avons été avertis.
We have been warned.
7. Nous allons ensemble à la promenade.
We go together walking.
- t—8. Ils ont aimé leurs enfans.
They have loved their children.
- x—9. Il parla d'une voix altérée.
He spoke with an excited voice.

SECOND SERIES.

Phrases in which the final consonant would be carried to the next word against *euphony* or clearness of meaning.

- d—1. Il était bien fait, grand et fort.
He was well made, tall and strong.
2. Ce marchand agit honorablement.
That merchant acts honorably.
- g—3. Il y aura du sang et des larmes versés.
There will be blood and tears shed.
- n—4. Ils savent leur leçon et leurs thèmes.
They know their lesson and their exercises.
- p—5. Il a reçu un coup inattendu.
He has received an unexpected blow.
- s—6. Nos agents agissent pour nos intérêts.
Our agents act for our interests.
7. Nous allons ensemble à l'assemblée.
We go together to the assembly.
- t—8. Ils ont été très étonnés.
They have been very astonished.
- x—9. Nous avons tout compris, et sa voix et ses gestes.
We have understood both his voice and gestures.

Examine carefully the preceding phrases; compare number by number, the phrases of the first series in which the final consonant indicated at the margin is carried to the next vowel, when it is marked by this sign (◌), with the

phrases of the second series, where the same consonant is silent, as marked by the cipher (°) over it. On this subject, the ear and the taste are to be consulted. But the best way of forming both the ear and the taste is, undoubtedly, to listen to a native, and to practise under his direction.

R final, preceded by *e*, is seldom carried to the next vowel in conversation; in public, affectation must be avoided.

SECTION IX.

CONSONANTS WHEN DOUBLE, IN THE MIDDLE OF WORDS,
AND OTHER CASES.

B.—bb.

B is sounded in the middle of words, as in abdiquer, absent, abstrait, observer, obstacle, obstination, obtenir, obstruction, subvenir, &c.

When *b* is double, one only is heard, as abbé, abbaye, rabbin, sabbat, &c.

C. G.—e g.

C and *g* repeated in the middle of words are both sounded when preceding *e* or *i*: the first is sounded hard, second soft (being before *e* or *i*), as in succès, succéder, suggérer, accident, &c.

If the letters *c. g.* precede *a, o, u,* or a consonant, one of them only is heard with the hard sound, as in accabler, accord, ecclésiastique, occasion, succulent, aggraver, agglomérer, &c.; *g* has the hard sound in énigme, segment, Enghien.

D.—d d.

D is sounded in the middle of words, as in adjectif, adverbe, adjoindre, admettre, &c.

When *d* is double the two seem to be heard, as in addition (and derivatives), adduction (and derivatives), reddition.

F.—f f.

When *f* is double one only is heard, as in affaiblir, effusion, offrir, &c.

H.—mute-aspirate.

H is aspirate in the middle of compound or derivative words, when it is aspirate in the simple or primitive, v. g., *h* is aspirate in *déhanché*, *déharnaché*, *enharnaché*, *s'enhardir*, &c., because it is aspirate in *hanche*, *harnais*, *hardi*. But *h* is mute in *déshériter*, *déshonorer*, *déshonnête*, &c., because it is mute in *héritier*, *honneur*, *honnête*.

As it is important for a proper pronunciation, the learner should know when *h* is *mute* and when it is *aspirate*, a pretty long list is given hereafter of words most frequently used beginning with *h* mute, and of those beginning with *h* aspirate. It will be seen that the *elision* does not take place before *h* aspirate, and the consonant preceding that *h* is silent, as marked by a cipher over it; but that the *elision* is made before *h* mute, and the preceding consonant is indicated by this sign (—) to be joined with the vowel following the *h*.

The French article being very often used in the following lists to show better when *h* is mute and when it is aspirate, I think that a table of the various forms of that part of the speech in French, is not here out of place.

The French translate the English article thus :

the by	{	<i>le</i> before a noun mascul. sing. beginning with a consonant or <i>h</i> aspirate.
		<i>la</i> before a noun fem. beginning with a consonant or <i>h</i> aspirate.
		<i>l'</i> before a noun sing. either gender, beginning with a vowel or <i>h</i> mute.
		<i>les</i> before any nouns in the plural.
of the by	{	<i>du</i> before a noun masc. sing. beginning with a consonant or <i>h</i> aspirate.
		<i>de la</i> before a noun fem. sing. beginning with a consonant or <i>h</i> aspirate.
		<i>de l'</i> before a noun sing. either gender, with a vowel or <i>h</i> mute.
		<i>des</i> before any nouns in the plural (<i>des</i> means also <i>some</i> or <i>any</i>).

to *the* by { *au* before a noun mascul. sing. beginning with a consonant or *h* aspirate.
à la before a noun fem. sing. with a consonant or *h* aspirate.
à l' before a noun sing. either gender, with a vowel or *h* mute.
aux before any noun in the plural.

a or *an* by { *un* before a noun masculine.
une before a noun feminine.

of a or *an* by { *d'un* before a noun masculine.
d'une before a noun feminine.

to a or *an* by { *à un* before a noun masculine.
à une before a noun feminine.

List of words with *h* aspirate. List of words with *h* mute.

un hableur	a bragger	habile	skilful
la hache	the axe	habilement	skilfully
hagard	haggard	l'habileté	the skilfulness
la haie	the hedge	de l'habit	of the coat
les haillons	the rags	des habillements	of the clothes
un hameau	a hamlet	s'habiller	to clothe one's- [self]
de la haine	of the hatred	à l'habitation	to the dwelling
haïr	to hate	l'habitant	the inhabitant
à la halle	to the hall	habiter	to dwell
une hallebarde	a halberd	l'habitude	the habit
halte	halt	s'habituer	to become ac- [customed]
d'un hamac	of a hammock	l'herbe	herb
les hanches	the hips	les Hébreux	the Hebrews
un hangar	a shed	hébraïque	Jewish
hanter	to frequent	hebdomadaire	weekly
happer	to snap at	aux hécatombes	to the heca- [tombs]
des harangues	harangues	un hectolitre	a hectolitre
harrasser	to harass	l'hémisphère	hemisphere
harcèler	to tease	l'Hégire	Hégira
des hardes	some cloths	les héritiers	the heirs

o hardi	bold	des hérésies	some heresies
les harengs	herrings	aux hérétiques	to the heretics
o hargueux	peevish	de l'héroïne	of the heroine
o haricots	some beans	héroïque	heroic
o les harnais	harnesses	l'hésitation	the hesitation
une harpe	a harp	hésiter	to hesitate
o aux harpies	to the harpies	hétérogène	heterogeneous
un harpon	a harpoon	hétérodoxe	heterodox
hasarder	to risk	l'heure	the hour
en hâte	in haste	heureux	happy
se hâter	to hasten	heureusement	happily
hausser	to raise	les hirondelles	swallows
haut	high	des histoires	some histories
hautain	haughty	les historiens	the historians
la hauteur	the height	aux histrions	to the buffoons
un haut-bois	a hautboy	l'hiver	the winter
héler	to hail	un holocauste	a holocaust
hennir	to neigh	les hommes	the men
au héraut	to the herald	à l'hommage	to the homage
un hérisson	a hedge hog	l'homœopathie	homœopathy
d'un héron	of a heron	homonyme	homonymy
du héros	of the hero	c'est honnête	it is honest
herse	to harrow	l'honnêteté	the honesty
heurter	to hurt	de l'honneur	of the honour
o des hiboux	some owls	c'est honorable	it is honorable
hideux	hideous	l'hôpital	the hospital
la hiérarchie	the hierarchy	l'hospitalité	hospitality
o les homards	the lobsters	l'horison	the horizon
la honte	the shame	l'horloge	the clock
à la horde	to the hord	l'horreur	the horror
hors	out of	c'est horrible	it is horrible
o les Hottentots	the Hottentots	l'hostilité	hostility
le houblon	some hops	un hôtel	a hotel
la houe	the hoe	des huîtres	oysters
de la houille	pit-coal	l'huile	the oil
une housse	horse cloth	l'humanité	humanity
du houx	holly	l'humeur	humor
o les Huguenots	the Huguenots	l'hygiène	hygiene
le huit	the eight	l'hymen	bymen
hummer	to suck in	des hymnes	of the hymns
		sans hyperbole	without hyperbole
		par hypothèse	by hypothesis
		aux hypocrites	to the hypo-
			[crites
		je m'honore	I honor myself

la huppe	the tuft	tu t'honores	thou honorest
hurler	to howl		[thyself
une hure	a heard	il s'honore	he honors
je me hâte	I make haste		[himself
tu te hâtes	thou makest	nous nous hono-	we honor
	[haste	vous vous hono-	you honor
il se hâte	he makes haste		[ourselves
nous nous hâtons	we make haste		[yourself
vous vous hâtez	you make haste	ils s'honorent	they honor
ils se hâtent	they make haste		[themselves

H is aspirate in the following names of countries, Hollande, Hanovre, Hongrie, Holstein, Hesse; and also in the names of the cities, La Havane, Le Havre, La Haye, Hambourg; though *h* is aspirate in Hollande (Holland), however it is mute in fromage d'Hollande (Holland cheese), toile d'Hollande (Holland linen).

The preceding lists are intended to spare the pupils the trouble of consulting dictionaries, and to offer them an occasion of practising about the *elision* and the use of both *h* mute and aspirate.

L.—ll.

The two *l*'s are heard in the following words—and they are not *mouillées* (liquid)—allégorie, allusion, appellatif, belliguer, belligérant, collation, constellation, collusion, ébullition, follicule, gallican, gallicisme, helléniste, intellectuel, malléable, médullaire, palliatif, pellicule, velléité, villa; and in proper names, Apollon, Bellonne, Pallas, Sylla, &c.

M.—mm.

In the following verbs and their derivatives the *e*—and the first *m* sound *an* nasal, and the second *m* is natural.

emmagasiner	to store	emménager	to furnish a house
emmaigrir	to make thin	emmener	to take away
emmailloter	to swaddle	emmenotter	to handcuff
emmancher	to haft	emmiéler	to sweeten
emmanteler	to have on a mantle	emmuseler	to muzzle

In adverbs formed from adjectives, *e* before two *mm* has the sound of *a* in *mass*, and one *m* only is heard, as in ardemment, diligemment, prudemment, récomment, &c., and in the word femme, pronounced ardament, prudament, fame, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—*E* before two *nn* has the sound of *è* with grave accent; *gemme* (sel *gemme*), *gemmes* (precious stones), *dilemme*, *Emmianpèl*.

M and *n* are heard with their proper sound in *amnistie*, *amnistier*, *calomnie*, *calomnier*, *hymne*, *insomnie*, *automnal*, *indemnité*, *indemniser*, pronounced *indamnité*, *indamniser*.

M is silent in *automne*, *damner*.

M is not nasal, but has its natural sound in proper names, be it final or not, as in *Amsterdam*, *Rotterdam*, *Abraham*, *Ibrahim*, *Jérusalem*, *Bethléem*, *Cham*, *Sem*, *Nemrod*, *Memphis*, *Lemnos*, *Wurtemberg*, &c., and *item*. In those words *e* before *m* has the sound of *è* accentuated; however, *m* has the nasal sound in *Adam*.

N.—nn.

In the following words: *ennobrir*, *ennui*, *hennir*, *solenité*, *solenniser*, *solennement*, the *e* preceding the *nn* is sounded like *a* in *mass*, and one *n* only is heard, except in *ennui* and derivatives as *s'ennuyer*, *ennuyant*, *ennuyeux* where the first *n* is sounded nasal and the second natural: *e* is also sounded like *a* in *mass* in *enivrer*, *enorgueillir*, *enhardir*, &c.: *n* is nasal in *enhardir* on account of the *h* being aspirate.

In the combinations *enn* when the two *nn* are followed by *e* silent, thus *e*, *es*, *ent*, the *e* preceding the *nn* is sounded *è* with a grave accent, and one *n* only is heard with its proper sound as if written *ène*. This occurs

1. In the present indicative and subjunctive of the verbs *prendre* to take, and compounds; *tenir* to hold, and compounds; *venir* to come, and compounds.

Prendre and compounds, as

ils prennent	they take	qu'il apprenne	that he may
que je prenne	that I may take		[learn
que tu prennes	that thou	qu'ils comprennent	that they may
	[may'st take	[nent	[understand
ils entreprennent	they undertake	que je reprenne	that I may sur-
que j'entreprenne	that I may un-		[prise
	[dertake	qu'ils surpren-	that they may
ils reprennent	they correct	[nent	[surprise

Tenir and compounds, as

ils tiennent	they hold	que je retienne	that I may re-
que je tienne	that I may hold		[tain
qu'il contienne	that he may	qu'il soutienne	that he may
	[contain		[sustain
ils contiennent	they contain	qu'ils soutien-	that they may
ils retiennent	they retain	[nent	[sustain

Venir and compounds, as

ils viennent	they come	qu'ils provien-	that they may
que je vienne	that I may	[nent	[proceed
	[come	ils reviennent	they come back
qu'il convienne	that he may	que je revienne	that I may
	[agree		[come back
ils interviennent	they interfere	que tu reviennes	that thou
			[may'st come back

2. In the feminine of following possessive pronouns:

Singular la mienne	plural les miennes	mine
" la tienne	" les tiennes	thine
" la sienne	" les siennes	his or hers

3. In the feminine, singular and plural, of adjectives ending by *ette*, and adverbs formed from those adjectives, as

ancienne	chrétienne	Phrygienne
anciennes	chrétiennes	Tyriennes
anciennement	chrétiennement	Autrichienne

4. In the following words: antienne, étrennes, ennemi, moyennant, penne, renne (animal) Rennes (city of France), &c.

The two *nn* are heard with proper sound in annexe, annuel, annotation, annuler, annulaire, annuité, inné, innovation, and a few other derivatives of the preceding.

P.—pp.

P is sounded in the middle of the following words: adapter, adopter, aptitude, baptismal, capsule, capter and derivatives, captivité and derivatives, contempteur, corruption, exception and derivatives, exemption, impromptu, ineptie, inspte, Neptune, nuptial, opticien, optique, opter and derivatives, opticisme, rédemption and derivatives, reptile, rupture, septembre, septuagésime, septuagénnaire, septentrion, septiforme, sceptique, scepticisme, impromptu, symptôme, &c.

P is silent in baptême, baptiser, compte, compter, corps, exempt, prompt, promptitude, sept, septième, temps, and in je romps, tu romps, il rompt, je corromps, tu corromps, il corrompt, &c.

P double is sounded like one in apporter, appeler, appliquer, application, apprendre, opposer, opposition, supposer, supplanter, &c.

The two *pp* are heard in Agrippa, Hippias, hippique, Hippomène, philippique. *Ph* is sounded *f* philosophie, physique, &c.

R.—rr.

It is admitted that two *rr* are generally sounded like one, probably on account of the softness of pronunciation peculiar to the French, as in arriver, arroser, barre, corriger, serrer, verre, terre, pronounced ariver, aroser, bare, &c.

Three exceptions are also generally admitted.

1. The two *rr* are sounded in the future and conditional of the verbs *mourir*, to die; *acquérir*, to acquire; *courir*, to run; and their compounds, as *conquérir*, *concourir*, &c., as je mourrai, je mourrais, j'acquerrai, j'acquerrais, je courrai, je courrais, &c.

2. The two *rr* are heard in words having the negative *ir* prefixed to them, as *irréconciliable*, *irréfragable*, *irréfléchi*, *irrégulier*, *irrémissible*, *irréparable*, &c.

3. The two *rr* are heard in some words expressing strong and energetic feelings, as *horreur*, *horrible*, *abhorrer*, *terreur*, *terrible*, &c., and also, in *erreur*, *errer*, *errata*, *erroné*, *aberration*. But even in these three exceptions the two *rr* must not be pronounced too thrilling.

Some pretend that the French *r* is pronounced with greater force than the English, and must be uttered with that jarring and rolling sound heard sometimes among Irish and Scotch people. This opinion is too absolute, contrary to that sweetness and euphony characteristic of the French pronunciation; and I may add, to the constant practice of refined society.

There is only one case where *r* in French receives a lit-

the more stress of the voice than in English, it is when *r* is the last letter of a syllable in the middle or at the end of words, as exemplified in the following lists. In the first, *r* is somewhat stronger in the French words than in the English; in the second, *r* is pronounced the same in both languages.

1ST LIST.

English.	French.
ardor	ardeur
army	armée
border	bordure
cardinal	cardinal
discord	discorde
force	force
important	important
murder	meurtre
pardon	pardon
quarter	quartier
turner	tourneur

2D LIST.

English.	French.
agreeable	agréable
arbitrary	arbitrairement
arrogant	arrogant
brave	brave
credit	crédit
gracious	gracieux
irregularity	irrégularité
irruption	irruption.
retribution	rétribution
treatise	traité
to trouble	troubler

S.—ss.

S has two sounds, one *sharp* or *hissing*, which is heard three times in the English word *senseless*, the other *soft*, being that of *z* as in the word *rose*.

I. The hard sound is given

1. By two *ss* in the middle of words, as *accessible*, *admissible*, *assurer*, *assumer*, *bassesse*, *détresse*, *essence*, *impossible*, *impression*, *possession*, *ressentiment*, *vassal*, &c.

2. By one *s* preceded or followed by a consonant, as in *aspirer*, *austérité*, *consonne*, *convulsion*, *digestion*, *jasmin*, *escadre*, *prisme*, *ustentile*, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—*S* is soft in *balsamine*, *presbytère*, *transaction*, *transiger*, *transition*, *transitoire*, *transitif*, and in proper names, *Alsace*, *Asdrubal*, *Esdras*, *Israël*, *Lesbos*, *Louisville*, *Ausbourg*, *Philisbourg*, &c.

3. The hard sound is heard also by *s* initial, as in *sable*, *sacré*, *séjour*, *serment*, *sottise*, *sublime*, *sucre*, *suppôt*, *sur-tout*, &c.

II. The soft sound that of *z* is given by *s* between two vowels, as in *Asie*, *aisé*, *cause*, *bise*, *dose*, *fusion*, *gosier*, *prose*, *rose*, *toise*, *usage*, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—*S* has the hard sound in the following words: désuétude, entresol, monosyllable, polysyllable, parasol, tournesol, préséance, présupposer, renaître, vraisemblable, and some other compound words.

When the combination *sc* at the beginning or in the middle of words is preceded by *e*, *i*, *y*, *s* is hardly heard, by being absorbed by the sound of *c*, as in effervescence, efflorescence, incandescence, reminiscence, miscible, rescinder, suciter, viscères, transcendant, scène, sceller, sceptique, sceau, science, Scythie, ascension, &c.

But when *sc* precede *a*, *v*, *u*, *l*, *r*, then *s* is heard, as in scapulaire, scandale, scorbut, scorpion, scolastique, scolie, cambie, scribe, scrutin, escadre, escalier, esclave, escrime, escorte, escompte, escroc, &c.

T.—tt.

Double *tt* in middle of words is sounded single, as in attacher, attaquer, atteler, attendre, attention, attester, attitude, attraction, attribut, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—Two *tt* are heard in atticisme, attique, guttural, pittoresque.

Th is sounded as *t* alone, as in théologie, théâtre, thé, thème, thèse, &c.

In the combinations *st*, *xt*, the *s* and the *t* must be distinctly heard, as in combustion, hospitalier, hostie, digestion, mixtion, question, l'est, l'ouest, le zist-et-le-zest, lest, toast, Brest and Pest (cities), and in Le Christ; *s* is silent in *il est*, he is.

X.—x.

X has four sounds.

1st. <i>cs</i> as in axiome	pronounced ac-siome
2d. <i>gz</i> as in exorde	" eg-zorde
3d. <i>z</i> as in dixième	" dixième
4th <i>ss</i> as in soixante	" soissante

1st. *Cs*—This sound is the most frequent and might be called the natural sound of French *x*, as in axe, axiome, Alexandre, doxologie, expédient, extase, extérieur, extravagant, fixer, fluxion, lexique, luxe, oxigène, paradoxe, rixe, sexe, taxe, vexation, &c.

Following
able, para-
vraisem-

or in the
ly heard,
rescence,
le, rescin-
ceptique,

rd, as in
e, scolie,
escrime,

le, as in
ster, atti-

attique,

tre, thé,

t be dis-
s, diges-
est, lest,
is silent

ne
de
ne
te
ight be
xiome,
extra-
e, rixe,

2d. *Gz*.—In the following words beginning with *e*, it seems that *x* has the sound of *gz* rather than that of *cz*, but learners, must not be troubled by this very little difference: examen, exaltation, exact, exagérer, exaspérer, exaucer, exercice, exhalaison, existence, exil, exhiber, exhumer, exultation, exorde, and also in xilon (cotton plant) Xavier, Xénophon, Xantippe.

3rd. *Z*, as in deuxième, dixième, sixième, dix-huitième, dix-neuf, dix-neuvième, vingt-deuxième, and in any number where deuxième sixième or dixième are found, pronounce deuxième, dixième, sixième: *x* is also sounded *z* when being final it is carried to the next vowel, as beaux enfants, heureux amis, six hommes, &c., pronounced beauzenfants, heureauamis, sixhommes, &c., pronounced beauzenfants, heureauamis, sixhommes.

4th. *Ss*, in soixante, soixantième, six, dix, Cadiz, Auxerre, Bruxelles; pronounce soissante, sisse, disse, Cadisse, Auserre, Brusselles.

SECTION X.

SYNOPTIC TABLE OF THE SIXTEEN FUNDAMENTAL SOUNDS
OF THE FRENCH PRONUNCIATION, WITH THEIR
SUBSTITUTES.

French.	English.	Examples.	Directions.
1. a	like a in mass	adage, camarade, parasol	common length. long and broad. close sound.
2. â	like a in father	âme, bâtir, mât, plâtre, pâle	
3. é	like ay in day	bénéfice, célérité, élevé	
		er (final), parler, boulanger, officier	
	4 Substitutes	ez aviez, cherchez, marcherez	
		e before a final consonant other than t and s, as avec, bref, miel	
		ai (final), mai, je chantai, chanterai	
4. è	like e in there	amère, achètera, procès	broad common length.

French.	English.	Examples.	Directions.
	3 substitutes { e ai ei	before two consonants, as in pervers, erreur, terre, je mets, il perd. in the terminations <i>ais, ait,</i> <i>aient.</i> <i>j'aimais, il aimait, ils avaient</i> and in the body of words, as in <i>baïsse, fraïses, maison,</i> <i>saisir, raison.</i> <i>baleine, peine, seigneur, reine.</i>	
5. é	like e in there 1 substitute ai	dépêche, rêve, tempête, tête { maître, traître, paraître, paître	broad and long
6. eu	like i in sir 1 substitute e	fleuve, peur, peuple, douceur { very light sound at the end of monosyllables, and before one consonant, as in <i>je,</i> <i>me, te, que, recevoir, repos.</i>	common length.
7. é, y	like e in me	divinité, prix, fil, hygiène {	common length.
8. o	like o in nor	accord, colonel, globe, porte.	
9. ô	like o in go 2 substitutes. { au os, ot &c.	apôtre, bientôt, pôle, rôti { aussi, beau haut, vautour. (terminations) as in <i>gros,</i> <i>propos, complot, idiot,</i> <i>matelot, trop.</i>	long and broad
10. u	like u in sweet	culture, multitude, nul, vue, { dur	must be learned.
11. an	like en in encore 5 substitutes { ant am em en ent	ange, candeur, chantant { chant, avant, partant, enten- dant. ambassadeur, chambre, lampe. emblème, emploi, membre, temple. in the body of words, engen- drer, essence, entendre, prendre. monument, prudent, parfaite- ment (<i>ent</i> silent in verbs.)	nasal sound.

Fren

12.

13.

14.

15.

16.

TH

a ;

the

French.	English.	Examples.	Directions.
12. in	like en in length	—crin, incendie, linge, principe	nasal sound.
	yn syntaxe, synthèse, syndic. im impie, important, limpide. ym sympathie, symphonie, Olympe. 7 substitutes { ain as in ains, bain, main, alm as in daim, essaim. ein ceinture, feinte, plein, teindre, sein. en (when final) bien, citoyen le sien, and in verbs venir, tenir; viendrai, tiendrai.		
13. on	like on in song	—bonbon, honte, non, violon	nasal sound.
	3 substitutes { om combat, nombre, pronom. ons appelons, finissons, saisons ont aideront, recevront, front, (and other final consonants after on.)		
14. un	like un in sunk	aucun, brun, lundi.	nasal sound.
	2 substitutes { um humble, parfum. eun à jeun.		
15. ou	like ou in you	—bouche, cou mourir trouver.	
16. oi	like wa in wash	foi, loi, croire, éloigner, voilà.	

SECTION XI.

THE VARIOUS MODES OF REPRESENTING THE SIXTEEN VOWEL SOUNDS, ELUCIDATED WITH EXPLANATIONS AND NUMEROUS EXERCISES.

FIRST SOUND.

That of *a* (as *a* in mass.)

The *a* without accent is called the ordinary or common *a*; it has a common length, neither long nor short.

The English learner must be careful not to pronounce the French *a* as in English.



EXERCISE.

abattre	ambassadeur	drap	mariage
adage	assassin	façade	nager
affable	badinage	hasard	Paris
agacer	cabane	jardinage	parc
agréable	calamité	lac,	tabac
attraper	charlatanisme	labial	variable

SECOND SOUND.

That of *â* circumflex (as *a* in father.)

I. The sound of *â* with the circumflex accent is equal to that of *a* in the English words *father*, *barn*. It is long and broad. The cases are not very numerous.

EXERCISE.

âge	châtier	lâche	pâte
âme	crâne	lâcheté	plâtre
château	emplâtre	mât	tâche
bâtir	gâter	pâle	théâtre
ohâle	gâteau	pâleur	relâche

II. The *a* unaccented is sounded as having the circumflex accent in a few words, for preventing confusion between two words of which the difference of meaning is understood by the difference of the sound.

EXAMPLE.

<i>a</i> is long and broad in	<i>bas</i> , low,	common in	<i>bas</i> , stocking
<i>a</i> " " "	<i>las</i> , tired,	" "	<i>là</i> , there.
<i>a</i> " " "	<i>pas</i> , step	" "	<i>pas</i> , not.
<i>a</i> " " "	<i>tas</i> , heap,	" "	<i>ta</i> , thy.

III. There is another circumstance in which *a* must be uttered long, as if the circumflex accent was over it, though there is not; I mean *a* in the middle of words, most especially long ones, when it precedes the termination *ion*, as *consummation*, *éducation*, &c.

This way of pronouncing *a* in the present case is not

generally indicated in grammars. It must be considered, however, as a nicety of the French pronunciation, preventing the monotonous uniformity resulting from the equal length of sounds upon each syllable of those long words, and corresponding, in one sense, to the English accent in the same words. I have heard in France the best speakers constantly observing that rule. But the *a* must not be sounded too broad for fear of some affectation.

EXERCISE.

abomination	équitation	inauguration	précipitation
consolation	manifestation	inflammation	prédestination
désolation	hallucination	insubordination	transmigration

THIRD SOUND.

That of *é* (as *ay* in day).

The cases in which this sound is used in the French language are very numerous.

The third sound is given :

I. By *é* with the acute accent in any word where it is found, whether at the beginning, the middle, or the end of words.

égalité	école	bénéfice	détériorer
ébène	égrége	bénédiction	pénétration
ébranler	élément	celérité	répéter
écarté	élévation	cérémonie	sévérité
échappé	accélérer	démérite	vérité

The most numerous cases where the *é* is final, are :

1. The nouns ending in *té* from the latin termination *tas* (3rd declension), about *six hundred* in number, as :

agilité	brieveté	docilité	piété
amabilité	celérité	gravité	sécurité
bonté	diversité	propriété	vérité

2. The past participle. 1st conjugation.

Masculine.

aimé } loved
aimés }

blâmé } blamed
blâmés }

conservé } preserved
conservés }

Feminine.

proposée } proposed
proposées }

sauvée } saved
sauvées }

tourmentée } tormented.
tourmentées }

3. Nouns ending by *ée*, as *pensée*, *idée*, *fumée*; 270 in number.

II. By *er*, ending any French words: the most numerous cases are,

1. Termination of the infinitive of verbs of the first conjugation, (4000), as :

abandonner

badiner

conserver

danser

défier

effrayer

gagner

hâter

imaginer

lever

parler

prouver.

2. Termination of words expressing a trade or occupation, as :

boulangier

chapelier

chartier

cordonnier

drapier

baker

hatter

carman

shoemaker

draper

épicier

menuisier

serrurier

tonnelier

vitrier

grocer

joiner

locksmith

cooper

glazier.

3. Termination of names of trees, as :

amandier

cerisier

citronnier

figuier

groseillier

almond-tree

cherry-tree

lemon-tree

fig-tree

currant-tree

olivier

oranger

poirier

pommier

prunier

olive-tree

orange-tree

pear-tree

apple-tree

plum-tree.

III. By *ez* termination of the second person plural of nearly every personal tense of every verb :

Present indicative. vous parlez	you speak
Imperfect vous parliez	you spoke
Future vous parlerez	you shall speak
Conditional..... vous parleriez	you should speak
Present subjunctive que vous parliez	that you may speak
Imperfect subj'ctive que vous parlassiez	that you might speak

As the termination *ez* is in seven tenses of the five thousand verbs, that makes *thirty-five thousand* times.

IV. By *ai* termination of the first person singular of the future of all French verbs; of the first person singular of the preterite definite of verbs of the first conjugation, and of some nouns.

je chanterai	I shall sing	je recevrai	I shall receive
je chanterai	I sang	je vendrai	I shall sell
je finirai	I shall finish	mai, essai.	

V. By the terminations *ec, ed, ef, el.*

avec	with	bref	brief
bec	bill	bel	fine
sec	dry	sel	salt
piéd	foot	miel	honey.

The conjunction *et* (and) belongs to the third sound.

FOURTH SOUND.

That of *è* with the grave accent, (as *e* in left.)

The cases of the Fourth sound are also very numerous. It is given:

I. By *è* with grave accent.

1. In nouns, adjectives, adverbs, &c.

amère	bitter	fidèle	faithful
amèrement	bitterly	fidèlement	faithfully
barrière	fence	frère	brother
brièvement	briefly	prière	prayer
chère	dear	prospère	prosperous
chèrement	dearly	progrès	progress
congrès	congress	dès	from or since
décès	decease	très	very.

2. In verbs before a consonant, followed with *e* mute.

J'achète	I buy	je mène	I lead
J'achèterai	I shall buy	ils mèneront	they shall lead
il lèvera	he shall raise	que je mène	that I may lead
ils lèveraient	they should raise	qu'il mène	that he may lead
nous lèverions	We should raise	qu'ils mènent	that they may lead

EXCEPTION.—When *e* precedes *g* followed by *e* mute, it takes an acute accent, as *siège, collège, il allége, ils abrègent.*

II. By *e* before two consonants in the body, or at the ends of words, and also before *x* and a final *t*.

EXERCISE.

effectif	effective	bosquet	grove
espérance	hope	berger	shepherd
élection	election	concert	concert
intellectuel	intellectual	pervers	perverse
mettre	to put	il sert	he serves
je mets	I put	nous servons	we serve
perceptible	perceptible	sexe	sex
perfection	perfection	exercice	exercise
protester	to protest	discret	discreet
il proteste	he protests	muet	dumb
terrestre	terrestrial	secret	secret

EXCEPTIONS.—*e* preceding two consonants, either,

1. Has the acute accent as in *décrier éclairer, église, éprouver, réprimander, rétracter, &c.*, and derivative.

2. Or it is *silent* as in *recréer, regret, secret, refrain, reprendre, reproduire, reproche, représenter, retracer, retraite, retrancher, retrouver, recruter, dessous, dessus, &c.*, and derivatives of those words.

III. By *ai* in the terminations *ais, ait, aient, aie*, which are to be found:

1. In the imperfect and conditional of all verbs, as

je donnais	je donnerais	je vendais	je vendrais
tu donnais	tu donnerais	tu vendais	tu vendrais
il donnait	il donnerait	il vendait	il vendrait
ils donnaient	ils donneraient	ils vendaient	ils vendraient

and at the present indicative of some verbs

je fais	je sais	je connais	je parais
tu fais	tu sais	tu connais	tu parais
il fait	il sait	il connaît	il paraît

2. In any other part of speech, as :

attait	harnais	palais
bienfait	jamais	portrait
frais	lait	souhait
baie	craie	baie

IV. By *ai* in the body of words as in

EXERCISE.

j'abaisse	je daignerai	je paraissais	
tu abaisses	tu daigneras	tu paraissais	
il abaisse	il daignera	il paraissait	
nous abaissions	nous daignerons	nous paraissions	
vous abaissiez	vous daignerez	vous paraissiez	
ils abaissent	ils daigneront	ils paraissaient	
aiguille	needle	maison	house
aisé	easy	maigreur	leanness
baïner	to bathe	raison	reason
fraises	strawberries	raisin	grapes

V. By *ei* in the body of words :

EXERCISE.

baleine	whale	pleinement	fully	peine	pain
enseigne	sign	peigne	comb	seigneur	lord
neige	snow	reine	queen	veine	vein
je peignais	j'enseignai	que nous teignons			
tu peignais	tu enseignas	que vous teigniez			
il peignait	il enseigna	qu'ils teignent			

The monosyllables, *les, des, mes, tes, ses, ces, cet, tu es, il est*, go with the fourth sound, so that *e* receives the open sound, as if spelt *lès, dès, mès, tès, sès, cès, cèt, tû es, îl est*, &c.

FIFTH SOUND.

That of *ê* circumflex, (as *e* in there).

The fifth sound is a little longer than the fourth. It is given :

I. By *ê* with circumflex accent.

EXAMPLES.

arrêt	se dépêcher	même
arrêter	emblème	prêtre
bête	entêté	rêve
crête	être	tempête
dépêche	extrêmement	tête

This is repeated all along the following verbs:—

apprêter	dépêcher	prêter
arrêter	pêcher	rêver
bêcher	prêcher	and their compounds.

II. By *at* when a circumflex accent is over the *t*, that takes place in a few nouns and in verbs ending by *attre*, at the infinitive, every time the compound vowel *at* precedes a *t*.

EXERCISE.

maître	renaître	je connaîtrai
maîtresse	paraître	je connaîtrais
maîtriser	apparaître	nous paraîtrons
traître	comparaître	nous paraîtrions
connaître	disparaître	il naîtra
méconnaître	reparaître	il naîtrait
reconnaître	paître	il connaît
naître	repaître	il paraît.

SIXTH SOUND.

That of *eu* (as *i* in sir) common length.
Or of *e* (as *u* in but) very short.

I. *eu*.

The sixth sound is produced by the compound vowel *eu* at the beginning, middle and end of words. The cases are very numerous :

It is

EXERCISE.

abreuvoir	heureusement	rigoureux
beurre	heurter	rêveur
bonheur	lieu	seigneur
demeurer	majeure	seulement
euphonie	mieux	tilleul
fleuve	peuple	tumeur
Europe	pleuvoir	valeureux
heureux	populeux	vieux

The sixth sound is very frequent with the following terminations :

1. *Eur* from Latin *or*, as *acteur* from *actor*, or from the present participle of French verbs changing *ant* into *eur*. There are about *thirteen hundred* of those nouns designating men in their actions and occupations, which are consequently masculine.

EXERCISE.

acteur	chanteur	protecteur
amateur	directeur	serviteur
bienfaiteur	observateur	receveur

There are *seventy* of the same termination of the feminine gender, expressing abstract properties or qualities, as :

ardeur	faveur	longueur
blancheur	fureur	pâleur
candeur	grandeur	rougeur
douceur	hauteur	savoir

2. *Euse*, a feminine termination, containing 263 nouns or adjectives, as :

blanchisseuse	menteuse	rêveuse
danseuse	orgueilleuse	travailleuse
heureuse	paresseuse	tricotouse
malheureuse	peureuse	vigoureuse

3. *Eux* including *fifty* nouns or adjectives.

envieux	injurieux	peureux
heureux	malheureux	parasseux
hideux	odieux	perilleux
ingénieux	orgueilleux	sérieux

Remark 1. In the combination *œu*, representing also the sixth sound, *o* is silent; v. g., *bœuf* ox, *cœur* heart, *chœur* choir, *nœud* knot, *œuf* egg, *œuvre* work, *sœur* sister, *vœu* vow, &c., *œil* eye, which is pronounced *eu-ye*.

Remark 2. *Eu* in the verb *avoir*, to have, is pronounced like *u* alone, as *j'ai eu*, *il eut*, *ils eurent*, *que j'eusse*, are pronounced, *j'ai u*, *il u*, *ils ur*, *que j'usse*, &c.

Eu is also pronounced *u* in the word *gageure* bet, (pronounced) *gajure*.

II. *e* unaccented.

The proper pronunciation of *e* unaccented is troublesome, and there is about it some confusion in the grammars. I deem it necessary to establish the following distinctions: *e* unaccented is: 1. Sometimes lightly heard; 2. Sometimes entirely silent; 3. Sometimes sounded as with an accent.

I. *E* unaccented is *lightly heard*, as *e* in the English word *artillery*, or *e* in *over*.

1. In the following monosyllables, *le* the, *de* of, *je* I, *me*, *te* thee, *se* himself, *ce* it, *ne* not, *que* that, than.

EXAMPLES.

Je ne te le donne pas.

I do not give it to thee.

Il se fâche de ce que je ne viens pas.

He gets angry because I do not come.

2. In the middle of words between consonants, for facilitating a distinct sound of them:

EXAMPLES.

contenir	lever	recevoir
brusquement	mener	grandement
contredire	parlement	repeupler
contrefaire	peser	repos
entretien	propreté	tristement
lestement	passablement	vertement.

In these two cases the sound of *e* partakes of that of *eu* (Sixth sound), but it must be uttered very rapidly. I recommend pupils to be very particular on that point, otherwise they will have in their pronunciation something heavy and slow, as it is heard in the south of France, and called in Paris *accent gascon* (accent from Gascony), which is essentially opposed to that rapid, easy, and fluent mode of speaking characteristic of the French pronunciation.

II. *E* unaccented is *entirely silent* in three cases :

First case.—At the end of any word (the preceding monosyllables being excepted. The cases are exceedingly numerous, and, as a general rule, nouns with that termination are of the feminine gender.

EXAMPLES.

The following table gives the approximate number of nouns of the various terminations here indicated :

ie as <i>jalousie</i> , 700 nouns.	ance as <i>chance</i> , 160 nouns.
ée as <i>pensée</i> , 270 "	ice as <i>justice</i> , 140 "
ure as <i>aventure</i> , 360 "	ine as <i>famine</i> , 156 "
ette as <i>trompette</i> , 276 "	ence as <i>révérence</i> , 133 "
ière as <i>rivière</i> , 296 "	ade as <i>façade</i> , 138 "

Add to those about eighty other terminations in *e* mute containing each a certain number of nouns and adjectives, the total number will amount to about *six thousand seven hundred*.

Now, if you bear in mind that a final *e* silent is used to form the feminine of the greatest part of adjectives, and of the past participle of all verbs, and that the termination in *e* silent is found in the three persons singular of the present indicative, and in the second and third persons imperative, of verbs of the 1st conjugation (more than four thousand); in the three persons singular of the present subjunctive of all French verbs (more than five thousand); in the infinitive of verbs of the 4th conjugation (about three hundred and fifty-three), &c. ; you will have an idea of the immense number of terminations in *e* silent existing in the French language.

This induces me to give pupils a second recommendation, which has also its application in the two following cases, viz., to be very careful to drop *e* silent in speaking or reading. What renders the accent of the south of France so unpleasant is because they sound *e* mute; for instance, instead of pronouncing the phrase "*cette dame est très-belle*," as if spelled *cett damm est très-bell*, they pronounce it as if written *cetteu dameu est très-belleu* (that lady is very beautiful.)

Second case.—*E* unaccented is also *silent* in the middle of words when preceded by a vowel. This takes place in a few nouns, as *paiement*, payment; *abolement*, barking; *tournolement*, whirling; &c.; and in verbs ending at the infinitive in *ier*, *ier*, *yer* (one hundred and eighty in number), as *créer* to create; *supplier* to supply; *étudier* to study; *lier* to tie; *nier* to deny; *prier* to pray; *payer* to pay, &c.

EXAMPLES.

il créera	he shall create	tu lieras	thou shalt tie
nous supplierons	we shall supplicate	nous nierons	we shall deny
vous suppléer	you shall supply	vous paierez	you shall pay
ils étudieront	they shall study	nous paierons	we should pay
vous étudier	you should study	il nettoiera	he shall clean
je lierai	I shall tie	vous essaier	you shall try

EXCEPTION 1.—In the verb *ayer* to rifle, *y* is kept all along the verb and the following *e* lightly heard, as *je raye*, *je rayerai*, are pronounced *je rai-ye*, *je rai-ye-rai*. In other verbs in *ayer* most of the grammarians replace *y* by *i*, writing *je paie*, I pay; *je paierai*, I shall pay. The French Academy, without disapproving them, keeps still *y*, and writes *je paye*, *je payerai*.

EXCEPTION 2.—As it has been said, Sect. VI. (letters *ll*), *e*, unaccented, is lightly heard when it comes after liquid *ll*, which are suppressed in pronouncing.

Third case.—*E*, unaccented, is *silent* when it precedes a final *s*. The cases are very numerous, as they take place in the plural of nouns, adjectives, past participles, &c., ending with *e* mute at the singular; *s* is also silent before a consonant, but sounded before a vowel to which it is joined.

EXAMPLES.

hommes braves	pronounced	homm brav
femmes prudentes	"	femm prudent (sound <i>ɥ</i>)
pensées confuses	"	pensé confuz (sound <i>z</i>)
grandes misères	"	grand miser (sound <i>d, r</i>)
femmes aimables	"	femme-aimable
élèves instruits	"	élèv-sintrui
personnes avares	"	personne-zavar

EXCEPTION.—In the following words, *e* is not silent, it sounds *è*, les, des, mes, tes, ses, ces, tu es.

Remark 1.—*E* mute; final; 1, causes the preceding consonant to be sounded; 2, destroys the nasal sound of *n* preceding it; v. g., *d, s, t, r*, are silent in grand, confus, savant, premier, but they are sounded in grande, confuse, savante, première; *n* has the nasal sound in cousin, un, importun, but it has its natural sound in cousine, une, importune.

Remark 2.—The vowel or the syllable preceding mediately or immediately *e* mute, receives a stress of the voice which has something similar to the English accent, and that vowel or syllable may be said to be long, at least generally; as in the words adage, aimable, importance, pareille, offerte, ouverte, envie, possible, compose, chose, escorte, gravure, obscure, &c. This rule has its application also before an *e* lightly heard in the middle of words, as *contenir, entretien, parlement, &c.*

Remark 3.—*E* unaccented, is sounded as with an accent over it:

1st, When it precedes two or more consonants in the middle or at the end of words, v. g., expert, pervers, as already explained (Fourth sound).

2nd, When preceding a final consonant other than *s*, v. g., bref, pied, complet (see Fourth and Fifth sounds).

Here comes this question: Is this *e* pronounced open, as having the grave accent, or close, as having the acute accent? General answer: Before two or more consonants, in the middle or at the end of words, the *e* is pronounced open, thus (*è*); before a final consonant (with the exception of *t* as in complet), the *e* must be pronounced close, thus (*é*).

That point has been thoroughly elucidated at the Third and Fourth sounds, pages 49-51.

FRENCH PRONUCIATION.

SEVENTH SOUND.

That of *i* (as *e* in *me* or *ee* in *bee*.)

EXERCISE.

amitié	friendship	gibier	game	ridicule	ridicule
civil	civil	initiation	initiation	scie	saw
divinité	divinity	ministre	minister	timidité	timidity
effigie	effigy	mie	crum	uni	united
fil	thread	prix	price	vive	quick
fini	finished	qui	who	visite	visit

The 7th sound is represented by *y* in words from the Greek.

hydraulique	hydraulic	hymne	hymn	gymnase	gymnasium
hydre	hydra	hymen	hymen	mystère	mystery
hygiène	hygiene	hypocrisie	hypocrisy	physique	physique

In the word *yeux* eyes, be careful to pronounce the final consonant of the preceding word, as *les yeux*, *là-yeux*.

When a circumflex accent is over *i*, the sound is a little prolonged, corresponding to *ee* in *bee*.

EXERCISE.

dime	tithe	épître	epistle	île	island
diner	to dine	gîte	lodging	mit	placed
qu'il accomplit	that he might	qu'il apprît	that he might		
	[accomplish]		[learn]		
" consentit	" consent	" entendit	" hear		
" dormit	" sleep	" attendit	" wait		
" finit	" finish	" rendit	" render		
" offrit	" offer	" vendit	" sell		

EIGHTH SOUND.

That of *o* (as *o* in *nor*).

accord	agreement	égorger	to cut throat	poste	post
botte	boot	fort	strong	porte	door
brosse	brush	frotter	to rub	roc	rock
colonel	colonel	globe	globe	soldat	soldier
colporteur	pedlar	monopole	monopoly	sort	fate
corps	body	idole	idol	vocal	vocal
essor	flight	note	note	vote	vote

NINTH SOUND.

That of *ô* circumflex (as *o* in *note*).I. In the ninth sound *ô* is long and broad.

EXERCISE.

apôtre	apôtle	drôle	funny	pôle	pole
bientôt	bien	hôpital	hospital	rôti	roast
côté	side	impôt	tax	support	instrument.
dôme	cupola	le nôtre	ours	le vôtre	yours.

II. The ninth sound is represented by *o* unaccented:1. When it precedes a final consonant silent, more frequently *s* or *t*.

EXERCISE.

gros	big	idiot	idiot	broc	jug
nos	our	matelot	sailor	croc	crook
propos	design	mot	word	accroc	rent
vos	your	pot	pitcher	racroc	lucky hit
complot	plot	marmot	marmot	escroc	swindler
flot	wave	rabot	plane	trop	too much
gigot	leg	sot	stupid		

EXCEPTION—*O* has the common sound as *a* in *nor*, in *Délos*, *Minos*, and other foreign words, and also in French words, when the following final consonant must be sounded, as *bloc*, *roc*, *soc*, *dot*, &c.

III. The ninth sound is also represented by *o* unaccented in the middle of words before *s*; and before *t* when *t* precedes the termination *ion*.

EXERCISE.

chose	thing	émotion	emotion	il osera	he shall dare
composer	to compose	motion	motion	posera	to put
composition	composition	action	notion	position	position
dose	dose	oser	to dare	proposer	to propose
gosier	throat	j'ose	I dare	rose	rose

IV. The ninth sound is very frequently and properly represented by the combinations *au* and *eau*.

EXERCISE.

augmenter	to increase	fausse	false	animaux	animals
auprès	near	haut	high	bestiaux	cattle
aussi	also	jaune	yellow	généraux	generals
beau	beautiful	maudire	to curse	troupeaux	flocks
beauté	beauty	nouveau	new	il vaut	he is worth
cadeau	gift	peau	skin	il vaudra	he shall be "
chapeau	hat	sauveur	saviour	il faut	it is necessary
coraux	corals	veau	calf	il faudra	it will be "

EXCEPTION.—*Au* is sounded as *o* in *Paul*.

TENTH SOUND.

That of *u* (something of *w* in *sweet*.)

The way the French pronounce *u* is entirely peculiar to themselves. It differs from the European pronunciation according to which *u* is sounded like *ou* in *you*, as well as from the English which is not, even approximatively, similar to the French.

I venture to mention the sound of *w* in *sweet*, as having perhaps something of the French *u*, if you protrude and round the lips in uttering the sound. A pretty long practice under the teacher is required.

EXERCISE.

abus	abuse	culture	culture	turbulent	turbu-
attribution	attribu-	dur	hard	urne	[lent]
	[tion]	effusion	effusion	usufruit	usufruit
assiduité	assiduity	justice	justice	vertu	virtue
bruit	noise	multitude	multitude	rue	street
funèbre	funeral	murmure	murmur	vue	sight
grue	crane	null	null	venues	come
jurer	to swear	élue	elected		
battu	beaten	tribu	tribe		

When the circumflex accent is over *u*, its sound is a little lengthened, as *flûte*, *mûr*, *sûre*.

EXERCISE.

qu'il bût	that he might	nous eûmes	we had
	[drink	vous eûtes	you had
" conclut	" " conclude	nous fûmes	we were
" connût	" " know	vous fûtes	you were
" courût	" " run	nous reçûmes	we received
" lût	" " read	vous reçûtes	you received
" promût	" " promote	nous lûmes	we read
" voulût	" " wish	vous lûtes	you read
" se tût	" " keep si-		
	[lent]		

ELEVENTH SOUND.

That of *an* (as *en* in *encore*.)Equal sound: *ant*, *am*, *em*, *en*, *ent*.

The French nasal sounds cause great difficulty to foreign learners whose organs are not accustomed to the same sounds in their own tongue. Therefore a long practice with the teacher is necessary to acquire a proper pronunciation of these sounds.

They are termed *nasal*, because, in fact, the sounding breath, in uttering them, passes lightly through the nose. But you must avoid carefully that excessive and unpleasant nasal twang which is heard among some American people. In pronouncing the French nasal sound, something easy and natural must prevail that keeps affectation away.

I. *an*.

To pronounce that sound give to *a* exactly the sound of *a* in *far*; then prolong *a* with the sound of *n* in *song*, without sounding *g* at all. *En* in *encore*, a French word adopted in English, gives also the sound of *an*, if properly pronounced.

EXERCISE.

ancre	anchor	changer	to change	grand	great
ange	angel	dans	in	langage	language
antique	antique	danser	to dance	manteau	cloak
bande	band	étang	pond	quantité	quantity
branche	branch	flanc	flank	ranger	to range
candeur	candor	France	France	tantôt	by and by

II. *ant.*

The cases with the termination *ant* are very numerous, the present participle of all French verbs having that termination. Some other parts of speech end also in *ant*.

EXERCISES.

chant	song	diamant	diamond	géant	giant
cependant	however	éléphant	elephant	gluant	gluey
devant	before	gant	glove	habitant	inhabitant

PRESENT PARTICIPLES.

aidant	helping	jouissant	enjoying	ayant	having
aimant	loving	parlant	speaking	voyant	seeing
chantant	singing	partant	starting	attendant	waiting
dansant	dancing	tenant	holding	croyant	believing
mangeant	eating	apercevant	perceiving	riant	laughing

III. *am.*

EXERCISE.

ambition	ambition	chambre	chamber	lampe	lamp
ample	ample	champ	field	pamphlet	pamphlet
campagne	country	framboise	raspberry	tambour	drum

IV. *em.*

embarras	emplir	tempête
embellir	emploi	temple
emblème	emporter	temps
embrasser	ensemble	trembler
embûche	membre	tremper
empêcher	tempérer	tempérance

V. *en*.

En at the beginning and in the middle of words with only one *n* represents the eleventh sound.

EXERCISES.

absence
cadence
défendre
denrées
défendre

désenchanter
engendrer
enseigner
ensemble
entendre

envie
essence
mentir
tendre
tentation

EXCEPTIONS.—As it has been already said, *en* is pronounced *in*, and belongs to the twelfth sound; 1, at the end of words, as *bien*, *citoyen*, *le mien*, *le tien*, &c.; 2, In the verbs *venir*, and *tenir*; as *je viens*, *il tiendra*, &c.

VI.—*ent*.

Ent represents the eleventh sound: 1, in nouns, as *instrument*, *monument*; 2, in adjectives, as *absent*, *prudent*; 3, in adverbs, as *souvent*, *parfaitement*.

EXERCISES.

1—nouns

aliment
bâtiment
instrument
monument
tourment

2—adjectives

absent
content
indigent
opulent
patient

3—adverbs

aimablement
bonnement
curieusement
durement
grandement

EXCEPTIONS.—The termination *ent* is silent at the 3rd person, plural of verbs.

EXAMPLES.

ils aiment	they love	pronounced	ils <u>aim</u>
ils parlaient	they spoke	"	ils <u>parlait</u>
ils disent	they say	"	ils <u>dis</u>
qu'ils parlaissent	that they might speak	"	qu'ils <u>parlass</u>

Observe, however, that in reading, *t* is not always silent; it may be carried to the next vowel, as, *ils lisent avec grâce*, *ils agissent en braves*, pronounce: *ils lis tavec grâce*, *ils agir t'en braves*.

TWELFTH SOUND.

That of *in*, (as *en* in length).

equal sound { *in* *im* *ain* *cin*
 { *yn* *ym* *aim* *en* (final)

I. *in*, *yn*.

EXERCISE.

crin	horse hair	injuste	injust	raisin	grape
enfin	finally	institution	instit'n	satin	satin
jardin	garden	linge	clothing	syncope	syncope
incendie	conflagration	prince	prince	syntaxe	syntax
inconnu	unknown	principal	principal	synthèse	synthesis
infidèle	infidel	quinse	fifteen	vingt	twenty.

II. *im*, *ym*.

EXERCISE.

imparfait	impossible	sympathie
impie	limpide	symphonie
impoli	olympé	timbale
impétueux	olympique	timbre
importance	symbole	timbrer.

III. *ain*, *aïm*.

EXERCISE.

ainsi	thus	main	hand	refrain	refrain
bain	bath	maintenant	now	saint	saint
dain	deer	mondain	worldly	saintement	holy
essaim	hive	pain	bread	souverain	sovereign
faim	hunger	plainte	complaint	train	train
hautain	haughty	plaintif	plaintiff	vilain	villain.



cin.

EXERCISE.

ceinture	girdle	feinte	feint	plein	full
enfreindre	to infringe	frein	bit	sein	bosom
empreinte	stamp	peindre	to paint	teindre	to dye
feindre	to feign	peindre	painter	teinturier	dyer

V. en.

As already mentioned, *en* represents the Twelfth sound (in) : 1, when final, as *bien*, *le mien*, *moyen* ; 2, in some tenses of the verbs *tenir*, to hold, and *venir*, to come, as *je tiens*, I hold, *je viendrai*, I shall come, &c. ; in other cases, *en* represents the Eleventh sound.

EXERCISE.

bien	good	je tiens	I hold
cananéen	cananean	tu tiens	thou holdest
examen	examination	il tient	he holds
Phénicien	Phenician	nous soutiendrons	
moyen	means	vous retiendrez	
soutien	support	il contiendront	
rien	nothing	je viens	
le mien	} mine	il vient	
les miens		il comprendra	
le tien	} thine	ils reviendront	
les tiens			

Remark. — *N* and *m* are not nasal in the words, abdomen, amen, harem, hymen, gluten, pollen, specimen; in which *en* and *em* are pronounced as in *then*, *them*.

THIRTEENTH SOUND.

That of *on* (as *on* in song.)Equal sound — *on*, *om*, *ont*, *ons*, *cons*, &c.

The cases in which the thirteenth sound occurs are very numerous ; it is found at the beginning, the middle, and

the end of words. One-ninth of French words end in *on*; they are divided in four classes: those in *ion* and *aion*, as *action*, *mission*, which are generally feminine; and those in *illon*, and merely *on*, as *illon*, *don*, which are generally masculine.

I. *on*.

EXERCISE.

bouillon	candies	don	gift	prononcez	pronounce
bonté	kindness	honte	shame	rondeur	roundness
chanson	song	fondation	foundation	selon	according
concert	concert	inondation	inundation	songe	dream [ly
conduite	conduct	montre	watch	ton	thy
consentir	consent	non	no	violon	violin

II. *om*.

EXERCISE.

accompagner	complaisance	pronom
accomplir	composer	rompre
combat	comprendre	tombeau
combinaison	nombre	trompeur
compagne	ombrage	trompette

III.—*ont, ons, cons*.

These three combinations are very numerous in the French language: *ont* is the termination of the 3rd person plural future of all verbs; *ons* or *cons* of the 1st person plural of all verbs in almost every personal tense. The same sound is also to be found in other parts of speech. The sound *on* is not affected by any final consonant, nor by *e* prefixed, which only softens *g* before *o*.

EXERCISE 1.

ils alderont, they shall	nous appelons	we call
ils béniront "	nous finissons	we finished
ils conduiront "	nous recevrons	we shall receive
ils donneront "	que nous rendions	that we may render
ils feront "	nous transigeons	we transact
ils prendront "	nous voyageons	we travel

EXERCISE 2.

bond	bound	pigeon	pigeon	pont	bridge
front	front	jugeons	judge	profond	deep
long	long	plomb	lead	trone	trunk

FOURTEENTH SOUND.

That of *un* (something like *un* in *sunk*.)

The proper pronunciation of this sound cannot be exactly represented by any English word; it must be heard from the teacher. The cases are but few.

EXERCISE.

aucun	no one	humblement	humbly	opportun	opportune
brun	brown	emprunt	loan	lundi	Monday
chacun	each one	emprunter	to borrow	parfum	perfume
commun	common	emprunteur	borrower	à jeun	fasting
humble	humble	importun	importune	alun	alum

FIFTEENTH SOUND.

That of *ou* (as *ou* in *you*.)

EXERCISE.

bouche	mouth	doux	sweet	pouvoir	power
bête	mud	fou	fool	prouver	to prove
bouffon	clown	fournir	to supply	route	route
bouquet	bouquet	hibou	owl	soupir	sigh
caillou	pebble	joujou	toy	sourd	deaf
cou	neck	louis	Louis	toucher	to touch
courage	courage	mourir	to die	tout	all
courir	to run	nous	we	trouver	to find
douleur	grief	pour	for	vous	you

In a few words, the circumflex accent is over *u*, as *vous*, *croûte*, *ouïs*; then *ou* is long, nearly as *oo* in *mead*.

SIXTEENTH SOUND.

That of *oi* (as *wa* in *wash*).

Equal sound: *oy*, *coi*, *oie*,

The sixteenth sound may be represented by *wa* in the English word *wash*. This is a diphthong, because there are two sounds, viz: *ou* like *ou* in *you* and *a* like *ah* in *Noah*: thus in French *ou-a*, uttering the two sounds with one single emission of the voice, as *foi*, pronounced *fou-a*.

Oi in French is said to be pronounced *ou-a* and it is generally so; however, I think that in some words *oi* must be pronounced *ou-è*, rather than *ou-a*; for instance, the words *moissonner*, *oiseau*, *poitrine* are better pronounced *mou-è-sonner*, *ou-è-seau*, *pou-è-trine*, than *mou-a-sonner*, *ou-a-seau*, *pou-a-trine*. In my opinion, the two following rules must be laid down:

I. *Oi* is pronounced *ou-a*.

1. In monosyllable words, as *foi*, *loi*, *moi*;
2. When *oi* is the final syllable of a word, as *emploi*, *renvoi*, *hautbois*;
3. When *oi* precedes the obscure syllable formed by a consonant and *e* mute, *de*, *re*, *te*, &c., as in *boite*, *froide*, *gloire*, *étroitement*, or by any mute termination, *e*, *es*, *ent*, as *que je boive*, *que tu boives*, *qu'ils boivent*.

II. *Oi* is pronounced *ou-è* (*e* being very open):

1. When *oi* precedes a common syllable as *croissant*, *moitié*, *soigner*, pronounced *crou-è-sant*, *mou-è-tié*, *sou-è-gner*;
2. When the sound represented by *oi* is formed with the letter *y*, in the middle of words, between two vowels, as *citoyen*, *moyen*, *noyer*, pronounced *ci-ou-è-yen*, *mou-è-yen*, *nou-è-ïd*. If between two vowels is equal to two *i's*, one:

with the preceding vowel forms a diphthong, the other *i* with the following vowel forms another diphthong, thus *moi-ien*;

3. When *oi* precedes one *n* nasal, final or not, as *besoin*, *foin*, *joindre*, *moindre*, pronounce *besou-èn*, *fou-èn*, *jou-èndre*, *mou-èndre*.

But in the application of this second rule be very careful to give to *è* a very open and broad sound, and to avoid pronouncing *e* with the close sound produced by the acute accent (*é*); pronouncing *oiseau*, *voisin*, *ou-è-seau*, *vou-è-sin*, instead of *ou-é-seau*, *vou-é-sin*. This would be a very improper pronunciation of the diphthong *oi*.

EXERCISE.

oi sounded *ou-a*.

ardoise	slate
autrefois	formerly
avoir	to have
boire	to drink
charroi	transportation
gloire	glory
joie	joy
loi	law
j'envoie	I send
ils envoient	they send
nageoire	the fin
quoi	what
voie	way
voix	voice

oi sounded *ou-é*.

croissant	crescent
convoyer	to convey
éloigner	to remove
moitié	half
noirir	to blacken
poisson	fish
témoigner	testify
voici	here is
voilà	there is
besoin	need
joindre	to join
citoyen	citizen
joyeux	joyful
royal	royal

The Sixteenth sound is represented: 1, by *oi* in *poêle* frying pan, *poêle* stove, *moelle* marrow; 2, by *oue* in *fouet* a whip, and all along the verb *fouetter* to whip; 3, by *ou* in *équateur*, *quadrupède*, *aquatique*, &c. (See 2nd list, page 14).

SECTION XII.

READING LESSONS.

I.

Le Loup et le Chien du Berger.

In this lesson each one of the sixteen vowel sounds and of their substitutes is marked by a numerical figure corresponding and referring to the synoptic table, Sect. X.

E unaccented, when lightly heard, belongs to the Sixth sound (eu); but in reading you must give to that *e* hardly one third of the common duration of the Sixth sound.

As for the combinations of consonants, *pu*, when embarrassed, must refer to Sect. VI and IX.

14 15 15 11 1 1 4 10 8 5 12 4 14 14
Un loup courant à travers une forêt, vint près d'un trou-
9 6 15 12 7 11 13 1 6 7 13 10 4 3 6
peau de moutons: il rencontra le chien du berger. Que
4 15 7 7 15 7 6 11 1 6 4 7 3 4 1 4 7
faites-vous ici, lui demanda le dernier? Quelle affaire y
1 3 15 6 4 10 6 7 8 6 1 3 13 7 6 15
avez-vous? Je fais une petite promenade, répondit le loup:
6 3 1 6 9 4 12 6 15 6 8 4 10 15
je n'ai pas de mauvais dessein, je vous le proteste sur mon
6 6 8 6 10 11 15 1 7 3 6 6
honneur. Votre honneur! sûrement vous badinez: je ne
15 13 1 6 6 13 8 8 6 15 1 6 8
vous n'avez pas recevoir votre honneur pour gage de votre
8 6 15 12 6 1 1 3 10 2 7 13 6 15 7
honnêteté. Point de tache à ma réputation, je vous prie:
4 11 7 11 8 6 13 9 7 3 7 1 6 4 11
mes sentiments d'honneur sont aussi délicats que mes grands
4 15 13 6 8 3 11 11 6 6 15 6 4 6
exploits sont renommés. Pendant que le loup faisait le
1 3 7 7 6 13 8 6 6 14 1 9 3 1 1 10 15
panégyrique de son honnêteté, un agneau s'écarta du trou-
9 1 11 2 7 13 1 4 11 1 4 7 1 16 3 11
peau: la tentation était grande; il saisit la proie et l'em-
8 1 1 3 3 7 7 2 7 13 11 6 16 11 7 6 1 5
porta avec précipitation dans le bois. Tandis que l'honnête

1 7 1 15 4 6 15 1 8 6 7 13 7 1 1 8 107
 animal courait de toute sa force, le chien cria après lui,
 1 3 9 15 5 11 11 10 9 1 9 8 7 6 6 15
 assez haut pour être entendu: hola, ho! monsieur le loup!
 12 6 15 1 9 11 4 16 3 4 11 7 11 8
 Sont-ce donc là vos grands exploits, et les sentiments d'hon-
 6 13 15 6 8 6 1 8
 neur dont vous venez de parler?

6 7 1 6 10 8 6 8 6 11 7 11
 Ceux qui parlent le plus d'honneur et de sentiments,
 13 8 7 4 6 11 6 7 11 13 6 16 13
 sont ordinairement ceux qui en ont le moins.

LITERAL TRANSLATION.

The Wolf and the Shepherd's Dog.

A wolf, rambling through a forest, came near a flock of sheep: he met the dog of the shepherd. "What are you doing here?" asked the latter. "What business have you here?" "I am taking a little walk," answered the wolf; "I have no bad design, I protest you, on my honor." Your honor! surely you jest: I would not receive your honor for pledge of your honesty." "No stain to my reputation, I beg you: my sentiments of honor are as delicate as my great exploits are renowned." Whilst the wolf made the panegyric of his honesty, a lamb strayed from the flock: the temptation was too great; he seized his prey and carried it with precipitation into the wood: When the honest animal ran with all his might, the dog cried after him loud enough to be heard: "Hallo, ho, master wolf! are these your great exploits and the sentiments of honor of which you have just been speaking?"

They who talk the most of honor and of sentiment are commonly those who have the least of them.

II.

Le Portrait parlant.

In this Lesson the *liaison* of a final consonant with a vowel is marked by this sign (-); a final consonant is marked by a cipher (o) when silent, and by (s) when sounded.

Un homme s'était fait tirer : (l'amour propre aime les portraits :) il voulait avoir l'avis de ses amis sur le sien—vous vous trompez, ce n'est pas là votre portrait, dit l'un, vous n'êtes qu'ébauché; le peintre est un ignorant; il vous a tiré noir et vous êtes blanc.—Le portrait vous représente laid et vieux, dit un autre, et sans flatterie, vous êtes jeune et beau.—Le peintre vous a fait les yeux et le nez trop petits, dit un troisième; il faut retoucher le portrait.—Le peintre a beau soutenir qu'il est très-bien tiré, il faut qu'il recommence. Il travaille, fait mieux et réussit à son gré. Il se trompa encore: les amis condamnèrent tout l'ouvrage. Eh bien, leur dit le peintre, messieurs, vous serez contents: je m'engage à vous satisfaire, ou je brûlerai mon pinceau: revenez demain et vous verrez.

Les connaisseurs étant partis, le peintre dit à l'homme: vos amis ne sont que des critiques ignorants; si vous voulez, vous en verrez la preuve; j'ôterai la tête d'un semblable portrait, vous mettrez la vôtre à la place. J'y consens; à demain donc; adieu. Le lendemain la troupe de connaisseurs s'assembla: le peintre leur montra le portrait dans un endroit obscur et à une certaine distance.—Messieurs, le portrait vous plaît-il à présent? Dites, qu'en pensez-vous?—Ce n'était pas la peine de nous faire revenir pour ne nous montrer qu'une ébauche: ce n'est

pas là notre ami. — Vous vous trompez, messieurs, dit la tête derrière le tableau, c'est moi-même.

N'entreprenez pas de convaincre par des raisonnements des critiques ignorans et prévenus; ils ne veulent ni entendre ni voir la vérité.

LITERAL TRANSLATION.

The Speaking Portrait.

A man had his likeness taken (self-love likes portraits); he wished to have the advice of his friends upon his own. "You are mistaken, this is not your portrait," said one; "You are but sketched; the painter is an ignorant man, he has drawn you black, and you are white." "The portrait represents you ugly and old," said another, "and without flattery, you are young and handsome." "The painter has made the eyes and the nose too small," said a third; "he must retouch the portrait." The painter tries in vain to maintain that it is very well drawn; he must begin again. He works, does better, and succeeds to his mind. He deceived himself yet; the friends condemned all the work. "Well then," said the painter to them, "gentlemen, you shall be content; I pledge myself to satisfy you, or I will burn my brush; come again to-morrow and you shall see."

The *connaisseurs* being gone, the painter said to the man: "Your friends are but ignorant critics; if you will, you shall see the proof of it: I shall take out the head from a similar portrait; you will put yours in its place." "I consent to it," to-morrow; then, adieu. The following day, the company of *connaisseurs* assembled; the painter showed them the portrait in a dark place, and at a certain distance. "Gentlemen, does the portrait please you at present? Say, what you think of it. I have retouched the head with great care." "It was not worth the trouble of making us come back to show us a sketch; this is not

our friend." "You are mistaken, gentlemen," said the head behind the picture, "it is myself."

Do not undertake to convince by reasoning ignorant and prepossessed critics; they are neither willing to understand nor to see the truth.

III.

Lettre de la Marquise de Favras à Madame de Valcour.

Oùi, Madame, nous sommes décidés à faire un voyage en Bretagne, avant de retourner au Languedec. Le but de ce voyage est le désir de voir deux personnes aussi intéressantes qu'extraordinaires, M. et M^{de}. de Lagaraie; voici leur histoire:

Le Marquis de Lagaraie passait pour l'homme le plus heureux de la Bretagne. Chéri de sa femme aimable, considéré dans sa province par son mérite personnel, sa naissance et sa fortune, il rassemblait dans son château toute la bonne compagnie des environs. On y donnait la comédie, des bals, et chaque jour amenait une fête nouvelle.

M^{me}. de Lagaraie partageait les goûts de son mari, et tous deux croyaient avoir fixé le bonheur, quand tout-à-coup au milieu d'une fête la mort subite de leur fille unique produisit dans le cœur du père infortuné une révolution aussi singulière qu'imprévue. Le dégoût du monde le conduisit bientôt à la dévotion la plus sublime, et en même temps lui inspira un dessein qui n'a jamais eu d'exemple.

M. et M^{me} de Lagaraie partirent pour Montpellier; ils y restèrent deux ans uniquement occupés à s'instruire de tout ce qui a rapport à la chirurgie; ils font des cours d'anatomie et de chimie, apprennent à saigner, à panser les plaies; et réunissant pour ce genre d'étude toute l'application que peuvent inspirer de grands motifs et un véritable enthousiasme, ils font l'un et l'autre des progrès étonnants.

Pendant ce temps on travaille par leur ordre au château de Lagaraie, qu'on transforme en un vaste hôpital, consistant en deux corps de logis; l'un pour les hommes, l'autre pour les femmes. Et ce séjour où régnaient jadis les plaisirs, le faste et la mollesse, est devenu le temple le plus auguste de la religion de l'humanité.

Cependant, M. et Mme de Lagaraie partirent de Montpellier et arrivèrent dans leur terre. M. de Lagaraie, alors âgé de quarante-cinq ans, prit la direction de l'hôpital des hommes, et depuis dix ans consacre sa vie et sa fortune à servir les indigents, dont sa maison est l'asile. Mme de Lagaraie, dix ans plus jeune que son mari, s'impose les mêmes devoirs dans l'hôpital des femmes. Belle et jeune encore, elle quitta avec transport les riches parures de la vanité, pour prendre l'humble costume de l'hospitalière.

Cet établissement, cet exemple de toutes les vertus, au-dessus peut-être de tout ce qu'on a jamais vu d'admirable, subsiste encore depuis dix ans. Voilà, Madame, ce que nous voulons voir. Emilie et Alexandre doivent faire leur première communion dans six mois, et je ne puis les y mieux disposer qu'en les menant à Lagaraie. Il est si doux de contempler la vertu de près ! L'hommage qu'on lui rend est le premier pas vers elle.

IV.

Portrait de Washington.

Washington était né pour de grandes vertus : l'amour du vrai et le patriotisme le plus pur ; son nom est profondément gravé dans le cœur des Américains, qui le regardent avec raison comme le libérateur et le père de la patrie. On peut dire qu'il fut aussi heureux qu'il fut grand et bon ; et si ses actions, qui furent dictées par la sagesse, n'excitent pas l'enthousiasme dans l'esprit de ceux qui ne voient dans les grands hommes que le génie et les qualités brillantes, elles commandent le respect et l'admiration dans l'âme de tous les gens de bien.

Il était grand et bien fait, il avait la figure calme et pensive mais agréable, les traits réguliers, les yeux gris, les cheveux bruns, le corps bien proportionné et fortifié par un exercice continu. Il joignait à beaucoup de dignité des manières gracieuses qui attiraient le respect et l'estime de tous ceux qui s'approchaient de lui. Avec de fortes passions, il était doué des sentiments d'honneur les plus délicats, ce qui, dans sa jeunesse, lui fit éprouver de vifs

ressentimens contre ceux qui commettaient des injustices, ou se permettaient quelque insulte; mais les réflexions d'un Age plus avancé lui apprirent à se commander si bien qu'il pouvait cacher même les faiblesses inséparables de l'espèce humaine. Discrèt et réservé, mais accessible à tout le monde, il n'ouvrait son cœur qu'à ceux dont il avait éprouvé la prudence et la discrétion. Son jugement était solide, sa fermeté inébranlable. Sensible aux plaisirs de la société, il aimait à converser familièrement avec ses amis. Simple dans sa manière de vivre, sobre, économe sans avarice, il avait toujours à sa disposition des sommes considérables, dont il se servait pour faire des charités ou pour encourager l'industrie.

Citoyen d'une république naissante, il ne sentit point le désir du pouvoir, ni celui des honneurs; il n'eut que l'ambition de faire du bien en se dévouant corps et âme à son pays. Il avait les vertus d'Aristide, le courage d'Epaminondas, et comme ces deux grands hommes il ne souilla jamais ses lèvres d'un mensonge lors même qu'il plaisantait. Sa piété, égale à son patriotisme, ne dégénéra point en bigoterie, et dans sa vie privée comme dans sa vie politique et militaire, il remplissait toujours scrupuleusement ses devoirs de religion, mettant au-dessus de la science, de la philosophie et de tout autre considération "les bienfaisantes lumières de la révélation."

Unissant les talents du général à l'habileté de l'homme d'état, il poursuivit ces nobles desseins à travers les plus grandes difficultés; tantôt à la tête d'une multitude disciplinée et sans ordre, luttant avec prudence et intrépidité contre des troupes aguerries et bien disciplinées; tantôt usant de douceur et d'autorité pour concilier les parties, apaiser les révoltes, faire taire les mécontents.

Vers la fin de sa présidence, où les suffrages universels l'avaient appelé et dont il remplit les fonctions avec autant de zèle que d'équité, il demanda à se retirer des affaires publiques. Sa conscience ne lui reprochait rien; mais sa modestie et la crainte d'être tombé dans quelque erreur, le portèrent à prier ses compatriotes d'oublier les fautes qu'il aurait pu commettre. Alors, comme un père qui se sépare,

de ses enfants pour les livrer à eux-mêmes dans un monde rempli de soins et de dangers, cet homme véritablement bon leur donna les plus sages instructions pour se gouverner ; leur recommandant la bonne foi et la justice, sources de toutes les vertus ; les prévenant contre les entreprises de l'ambition et de l'envie qui s'efforceraient toujours de les désunir pour censurer leur liberté ; et surtout les exhortant à la pratique de la religion, base de toute bonne morale, et soutien de la prospérité publique. Sa vie doit nous apprendre combien l'héroïsme calme qui brave les dangers dans la vue du bien public, est au-dessus de ces brillants génies dont la gloire ne se mesure que sur des villes détruites ou des peuples vaincus.

ANONYMOUS.

GENDERS OF NOUNS.

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PRELIMINARY EXPLANATIONS.

In English, the distinction of genders is as simple as it is natural. Amongst the *animate* beings, all males are of the masculine gender, all females of the feminine; the *inanimate* objects belong to the neuter gender, with very few exceptions. In the French language there is no neuter gender. The *animate* beings are divided, as in English, into the masculine and the feminine gender; but the *inanimate* objects also belong to the masculine or the feminine, and the distinction of the gender of those objects is to foreign learners a source of great trouble and difficulty.

In reading French, those who know the elements of French grammar are occasionally helped, in the distinction of the gender of nouns, by some other parts of speech; by the article, the adjective, the pronouns, and the participles; for instance in the following phrases:

1. *Le livre est sur la table*, the book is on the table; they know that *livre* is masculine, because *le* is masculine, and *table* is feminine because *la* is feminine;

2. *Ce château est à vendre et cette maison à louer*, this castle is to be sold and that house to be let; that *château* is masculine because *ce* is masculine, and *maison* is feminine because *cette* is feminine;

3. *Voilà de bons livres*, those are good books; that *livres* is masculine because *bons* is masculine;

4. *Les leçons sont récitées*, lessons are recited; that *leçons* is feminine, because *récitées* is feminine, &c.

But, if those persons want to speak or write in French, they are greatly embarrassed about the gender of nouns they make use of, and constantly exposed to humiliating and ridiculous blunders.

The knowledge of Latin is also very useful for the distinction of French genders, on account of the general fact that "the French nouns derived from feminine nouns in

Latin are mostly feminine, and nouns derived from masculine or neuter nouns in Latin are generally masculine in French." Thus, nouns ending in *ion* in French, as *action*, *opinion*, *région*, derived from the feminine nouns in Latin *actio*, *opinio*, *regio*, are mostly feminine; nouns in *ité*, *célérité*, *vérité*, from the feminine Latin nouns *celeritas*, *veritas*, are generally feminine; nouns derived from masculine nouns in Latin, as *livre* from *liber* (book), *champ* from *campus* (field), are masculine; and also nouns derived from neuter nouns in Latin, as *spectacle* from *spectaculum*, *temple* from *templum*, are masculine in French.

This treatise is naturally divided in Two Parts; the First of the *masculine*, the Second of the *feminine* gender.

The *termination* of nouns is here the *fundamental principle* of the distinction of genders. The terminations are divided in *series*; each series contains *ten* terminations with the nouns making *exceptions*; the terminations applicable to the highest number of nouns being generally placed the first. Each series or part of it led by a lesson to be learned by pupils.

The *number of nouns under each termination* is indicated, at least approximatively; and, although, it is not absolutely necessary for the purpose, to know the *number of nouns having the same termination*, it is nevertheless interesting and gratifying.

Thus we have 6,686 nouns for the masculine, and 5,275 for the feminine,—making up with the nouns whose gender is ascertained by the Additional Rules, page 98, a total of more than *twelve thousand* nouns. The gender of nouns not included in the series of this treatise is determined by this general rule, viz., "if they end with a silent *e*, they are *feminine*; if with a consonant, or any other vowel than a silent *e*, they are *masculine*."

It is therefore permitted to believe that the inconveniences mentioned by M. de Fivas in his French Grammar, viz: "that the treatise of genders are extremely incomplete and the rules vague," are at last removed, as well as the tedious and almost permanent necessity to foreign learners of consulting dictionaries for ascertaining the gender of French nouns.

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GENDERS OF NOUNS.

GENERAL RULES.

RULE I.

Nouns ending by *any consonant* are generally *masculine*.
For that reason, terminations with a consonant are called masculine terminations.

PRINCIPAL EXCEPTION.

1,175 nouns ending by *ion* or *aion* are generally *feminine*.

Other exceptions to this rule will be mentioned in the series of masculine terminations.

RULE II.

Nouns ending with *any vowel but e silent* (unaccented) are generally *masculine*.

The termination with any other vowel than *e silent* is also called masculine termination.

PRINCIPAL EXCEPTION.

600 nouns ending with *é* (acute accent) preceded by *t*, as *beauté*, are mostly *feminine*.

The other exceptions to this rule will be found at the terminations with *a, é, i, o, u*, page 90.

RULE III.

Nine tenths of the nouns ending with *e silent* are *feminine*.

For that reason, terminations with *e silent* are called *feminine terminations*.

The exceptions to this rule are to be found in the three series of masculine nouns ending with *e silent*, page 90

FIFTH PART.

MASCULINE GENDER.

Series of terminations of Masculine Nouns ending by a consonant, with exceptions for the Feminine Gender.

(Six Series of ten terminations each, but the last.)

SERIES I.

Terminations.	Example.	Number of nouns.	Exceptions.
1 eur	orateur	1300	67 following nouns, mostly abstract, are feminine: aigreur, ampleur, ardeur, blancheur, candeur, chaleur, chandeleur, clameur, douceur, épaisseur, erreur, faveur, défaveur, ferveur, fleur, fraîcheur, frayeur, froideur, fureur, grandeur, grosseur, hauteur, humeur, horreur, laidour, langueur, largeur, lenteur, liqueur, longueur, lourdeur, lueur, maigreur, moiteur, noirceur, odeur, pâleur, pesanteur, peur, primeur, profondeur, puanteur, pudeur, impudeur, rigueur, raideur, rondeur, rougeur, rousseur, rumeur, saveur, senteur,









MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART

(ANSI and ISO TEST CHART No. 2)



Terminations.		Example.	Number of nouns.	Exceptions.
2	ent	instrument	720	sœur, splendeur, sueur, te- neur, terreur, tiédeur, tor- peur, tumeur, valeur, non- valeur, vapeur, verdeur, vigueur, mœurs, (plur).
3	er	chandelier	642	— dent, gent, jument.
4	on	poisson	642	— cuiller, mer. — 22 following are femi- nine: boisson, chanson, cloison, cuisson, dondon, façon, (and derivatives,) foison, garnison, guérison, laideron, leçon, maison, moisson, poison, pamoi- son, prison, rançon, salis- son, souillon, toison, tatil- lon, trahison.
5	é	café	360	— amitié, inimitié, moitié,
6	in	vin	240	— fin, catin. [pitié.
7	au	château	225	— eau, peau.
8	at	combat	127	— “
9	ant	instant	124	— “
10	ot	complot	100	— dot, (marriage portion).

SERIES II.

1	is	treillis	123	— brebis, fleur-de-lis, sou- ris, chauvé-souris, vis, Iris, Thémis.
2	oir	pouvoir	143	“
3	an	océan	94	— maman.
4	ard	hasard	82	“
5	en	bien	78	“
6	al	hôpital	68	“
7	as	bas	65	“
8	ain	grain	64	— main.
9	il	péril	53	“
10	eux	curieux	50	“

SERIES III.

	Terminations.	Example.	Number of nouns.	Exceptions.
1	if	natif	48	"
2	el	miel	44	"
3	it	esprit	43	"
4	ou	bijou	41	"
5	us	refus	33	"
6	eu	feu	30	"
7	our	jour	29	— la cour, la tour.
	ur			
8	et	secret	24	— la forêt.
	êt			
9	ais	dais	24	"
10	oi	convoi	23	— foi, loi, paroi.

SERIES IV.

1	art	départ	23	— hart, part and compounds plupart, quotepart.
2	ail	travail	23	"
3	out	goût	23	"
4	aud	maraud	22	"
5	ac	sac	22	"
6	ut	but	22	"
7	ort	port	21	— la mort.
8	ois	bois	21	— une fois.
9	ol	vol	19	"
10	air	éclair	18	— la chair.

SERIES V.

1	ir	plaisir	18	"
2	eil	orgueil	17	"
3	oin	soin	16	"
4	uit	bruit	15	— la nuit
5	and	gourmand	14	"
6	aut	saut	14	"
7	os	repos	13	"
8	ord	bord	12	"
9	or	trésor	12	"
10	ours	concours	11	"

SERIES VI.

	Terminations.	Example.	Number of nouns	Exceptions.
1	ix	prix	11	— perdrix.
2	ond	furibond	11	“
3	eul	tilleul	10	“
4	ic	public	9	“
5	oit	exploit	9	“
6	ein	frein	8	“
7	oux	courroux	8	“

IMPORTANT REMARK.

Nouns ending with a consonant and being of terminations different from those given in the preceding Series, are masculine.

The only exceptions for the feminine are: la faim, la paix, la clef, la sape, la soif, la voix, la noix, les mœurs; and all the Saints Days, as la Toussaint, la Saint Jean, la Saint Michel, &c.

Masculine Nouns, ending with either of the vowels a, i, o, u.

Vowel.	Example.	Number of nouns.	Exceptions.
a	opéra	5	— sepia, vinula, (oater-pillar).
i	parti	143	— fourmi, merci, après-midi.
o	écho	40	— virago, (rough woman.)
u	écu	45	— bru, glu, tribu, vertu.

For those ending with é, see Series 1, No. 5, page 88 and Series 1, No. 3, page 93

Masculine Nouns, ending with e silent, making exceptions to the third general rule, page 86.

(Three Series of nine terminations each.)

SERIES I.

	Terminations.	Example.	Number of nouns.	Exceptions.
1	age	courage	375	—cage, image, nage, page, plage, rage, ambages(plur.)
2	aire	solitaire	365	—affaire, aire, chaire, glaire, grammaire, hairo, jugulaire, paire, statuaire, circulaire, and twelve names of plants, as la serpentine, l'éclair, " " [&c.]
3	isme	sophisme	180	—batiste, (fine linen) modiste, liste, piste, (scent of a beast).
4	iste	Déiste	150	—bride, cantharide, égide, hémorroïde, pyramide, cylindroïde, ride.
5	ide	homicide	39	—guêtre, fenêtre.
6	être	hêtre	37	—épigraphe, épitaphe, orthographe.
7	aphe	cénotaphe	30	" "
8	ome	Rome	28	—drogue, églogue, pirogue, synagogue, vogue.
9	ogue	dogue	27	

SERIES II.

1	ile	asile	27	—bile, file, huile, île, pile, tuile, vigile
2	able	érable	22	—étable, fable, table.
3	âtre	plâtre	21	—marâtre (step mother.)
	artre		6	—chartre, dartre, martre,

	Terminations.	Example.	Number of nouns.	Exceptions.
4	ire	empire	21	—cire, hégire, ire, mire, satyre, lyre, tire-lire, tournevire.
5	are	phare	20	—cithare, fanfare, guitare, tiare, tare.
6	ître	tître	19	—épître, huitre, mitre, vitre.
7	ave	esclave	19	bave, cave, entrave, épave, octave, rave.
8	ore	matamore	18	—aurore, amphore, métaphore, pécore.
9	acle	miracle	18	—débâcle, macle, (stony substance).

SERIES III.

1	ge	prodige	16	—tige.
2	omme	homme	14	—gomme, pomme, somme.
3	oine	patrimoine	13	—except names of plants and stones, and Antimoine (metal).
4	abe	arabe	12	syllable, souabe.
5	ége	siége	11	—allége (small boat).
6	uge	juge	11	“
7	ombre	nombre	9	—ombre (shade).
8	ivre	cuivre	8	—livre (pound).
9	ompte	compte	7	“
	omte	comte		
10	oire	territoire	20	15 noms féminins, as armoire, bassinoire, baignoire, bouilloire, écritoire, écuire, foire, gloire, histoire, mémoire, mâchoire, nageoire, passoire, poire, victoire.
11	ice	exercice	22	14 nouns are feminine as justice, malice, avarice, varice. &c.

SECOND PART.

FEMININE GENDER.

Six Series of *ten* terminations each, with exceptions for Masculine Gender.

SERIES I.

	Terminations.	Example.	Number of nouns.	Exceptions.
1	ion	action	1,175	—are masculine: ardélion, bastion, brinborion, camion, croupion, gabion, lampion, pion, scion, scorpion, septentrion, talion, million, billion, trillion, and a few other designating male sex.
2	ie	rêverie	716	—génie, incendie, parapluie, péripétie, Le Messie.
3	té	bonté	600	—arrêté, traité, comité, côté, été, pâté, thé, benédicité, velouté, and a few names of men derived from past participle, as député, révolté, &c.
4	ure	aventure	360	—augure, murmure, parjure, mercure.
5	ière	rivière	296	—cimetière, derrière.
6	ette	trompette	275	—amulette, squelette, and some words compound with a verb, as porte-mouchette, casse-noisettes.

	Terminations.	Example.	Number of nouns.	Exceptions
7	ée	pensée	270	—Athée, mausolée, musée, trophée, and a few others from Greek, as apogée, coryphée, hyménée, scarabée, pygmée, lycée, colisée, &c.
8	euse	trompeuse	262	“ “
9	ance	chance	160	—le rance (sentir le rance).
10	ine	famine	156	—le platine.

SERIES II.

1	ence	révérence	133	“ “
2	elle	hirondelle	122	—libelle, vermicelle, violoncelle.
2	ique	clique	115	are masculine: 26 designating men, as laïque, ecclésiastique, &c., and cantique, distique, émétique, narcotique, portique, topique, tropique, viatique, pique (at cards).
4	ade	façade	138	—grade, stade.
5	ille	grille	102	—codicille, mille, quadrille, spadille, trille, vaudeville.
6	esse	richesse	92	“ “
7	aille	canaille	80	“ “
8	ère	colère	72	7 designations of men and the following: adultère, caractère, cautère, cratère, ministère, monastère, mystère, presbytère, ulcère, viscères.
9	ole	idole	70	—capitole, môle, monopole, pôle, protocole, rôle, symbole.
10	ane	cabane	50	âne, arcane, crâne, filigrane, organe, plane, mânes (plur).

SERIES III.

	Terminations.	Example.	Number of nouns.	Exceptions.
1	ale-alle	{ sandale balle	50 12 }	intervalle, ovale, pétale, scandale.
2	ante	amarante	49	13 names of men, as, syco- phante, &c.
3	ite	guérite	48	—mérite, démérite, gîte, rite, site, satellite, and some names of men, as aréopa- gite, &c.
4	asse	cuirasse	48	—parnassee, paillasse,
5	aine	fredaine	47	—capitaine. [(clown).
6	ude	exactitude	46	—prélude
7	êche	bêche	46	"
8	ote	matelote	45	—antidote, vote.
9	ue	rue	45	" "
10	ande	guirlande	38	—multiplicande.

SERIES IV.

1	otte	flotte	36	—tire-bottes, (boot-jack).
2	arde	garde	36 34	—péricarde, (around the heart).
3	ate	cravate.		—automate, stigmaté, Eu- phrate, and nouns of men, as autocrate, aristocrate, &c.
4	ente	rente	33	—le trente, (the 30th day of the month).
5	ête or ète	crête	31	names of men, as prophète, &c., and a few compound words, as casse-tête, &c.

	Terminations.	Example.	Number of nouns.	Exceptions.
6	ache	hache	31	—panache, relâche, gamaches (gaiters), and a few names of men, as brava- che (bully).
7	oche	poche	30	—coche, porche, proche, re- proche.
8	ace	glace	28	—espace
9	ime	cime	26	—centime, crime.
10	ase	phrase	24	—cautase, gymnase, Pé- gase, vase.

SERIES V.

1	oue	houe	24	" "
2	une	rancune	22	" "
3	aise	fournaise	16	—bien-aise, mal-aise.
4	onde	onde	16	—mondé.
5	ape	soupape	14	—Pape, Satrape.
6	ogne	cigogne	14	—ivrogne, le Bourgogne, (wine).
7	anche	branche	14	—dimanche, manche (han- dle), (See page 92, No. 11.)
8	ice	justice	14	
9	oule	boule	13	—moule (mould)
10	oupe	coupe	13	—groupe.

SERIES VI.

	Terminations.	Example.	Number of nouns.	Exceptions.
	1 ipe	tulipe	12	—participe, principe.
	2 onte	honte	12	—conte (tale, history).
	3 erre	terre	12	—cimeterre, paratonnerre, tonnerre, parterre, verre.
	4 ève	fève	12	—rêve, élève (applicable to a male).
	5 osse	bosse	12	—carosse, colosse.
	6 erge	auberge	11	—cierge.
	7 arge	charge	8	—le large (the offering).
	8 ontre	montre	8	—le pour et le contre.
	9 orce	force	7	—divorce.
	10 oce	noce	6	—négoce, sacerdoce.
	11 { ule ulle }	} virgule		nouns in <i>ule</i> or <i>ulle</i> are feminine, except the following: adminicule, animalcule, conciliabule, conventicule, corpuscule, crépuscule, émule, fumnanbule, globule, monticule, pédicule, préambule, ridicule, scrupule, véhicule, ventricule, vestibule.

ADDITIONAL RULES

FOR THE DISTINCTION OF GENDERS.

MASCULINE.

I.

1. Names of seasons: le printemps, spring, &c.
2. Of months: on janvier dernier, last January, &c.
3. The days of the week: le lundi, le dimanche; on Mondays, on Sundays, &c.

II.

1. Names of Cardinal points: le nord, le sud; north, south, &c.
2. Of metals: le fer, le cuivre; iron, copper, &c.
3. Of colors: le vert, le rouge; green, red, &c.

III.

1. Names of countries when not ending with a *silent e*: le Portugal, le Chili, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—Le Bengale, le Hanovre, le Mexique, le Peloponèse are masculine though ending with a *silent e*.

2. Names of mountains when not ending with a *silent e*: Le Cenis, le Jura, le St. Bernard, &c.

3. Names of rivers when not ending with a *silent e*: le Rhin, le Mississipi, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—Le Danube, le Rhone, le Tibre, &c.

IV.

1. Names of trees, shrubs, &c.: le cerisier, cherry tree; le figuier, fig-tree; le chêne, oak, &c.

EXCEPTIONS. — L'aubépine, hawthorn; la bourdaine, black alder; l'épine, thorn; l'hiéble, dwarf-elder; la ronce, brier; l'yeuse, ilex.

V.

1. Names of languages: le français, le russe, &c.
2. The letters of the alphabet: un *a*, un *b*, &c.
3. The following parts of speech: ~~an~~ article, un nom, un adjectif, un pronom, un verbe, un participe, un adverbe; the other parts of speech are feminine: une proposition, une conjonction, une interjection.

VI.

Any part of speech taken substantively:

1. Adjectives: *le vrai* seul est aimable, what is true only is amiable.
2. Pronouns: *le mien* et *le tien* étaient inconnus aux premiers chrétiens, mine and thine were unknown to primitive Christians.
3. Verbs: *le boire* et *le manger* sont nécessaires à la vie, eating and drinking are necessary to life.
4. Adverbs: faites pour *le mieux*, do the best you can.
5. Prepositions: discutez *le pour* et *le contre*, discuss *pro* and *contra*.

VII.

Compound nouns: un passe-partout, a master key; un porte-feuille, a pocket-book, &c.

EXCEPTIONS.—1, Une garde robe, a wardrobe; une perce-neige, spring crocus; 2, when the compound noun is formed with a feminine noun and an adjective; une porte-cochère, une basse-cour, &c.

VIII.

Numbers cardinal, ordinal, fractional: le trois, le dix, le vingtième, une douzaine, &c.

FEMININE.

I.

1. Names of virtues: la foi, faith; la charité, charity; la tempérance, &c.

EXCEPTION.—Le courage, le mérite.

2. Names of vices: la cruauté, la luxure, la paresse; cruelty, luxury, idleness.

EXCEPTION.—Orgueil, pride.

II.

1. Names of countries when ending with a silent *e*: la France, la Russie, la Belgique.

EXCEPTIONS.—(See the third of the preceding rules for the masculine.)

2. Names of mountains when ending with a silent *e*, followed by *s* sign of the plural: les Alpes, les Pyrénées, les Cévennes, les Cordilières, &c.

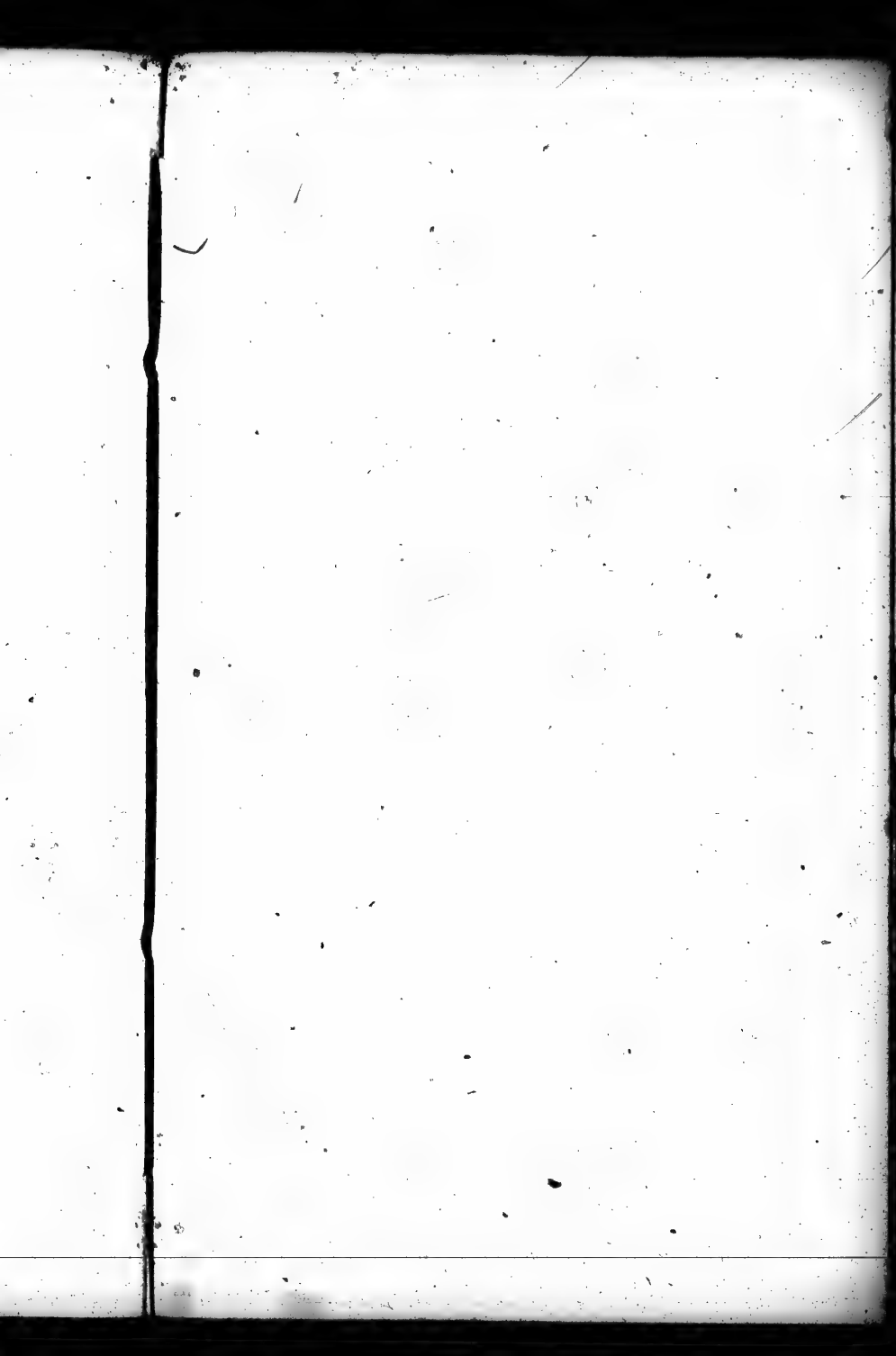
3. Names of rivers when ending with a silent *e*: la Seine, la Loire, la Garonne, &c.

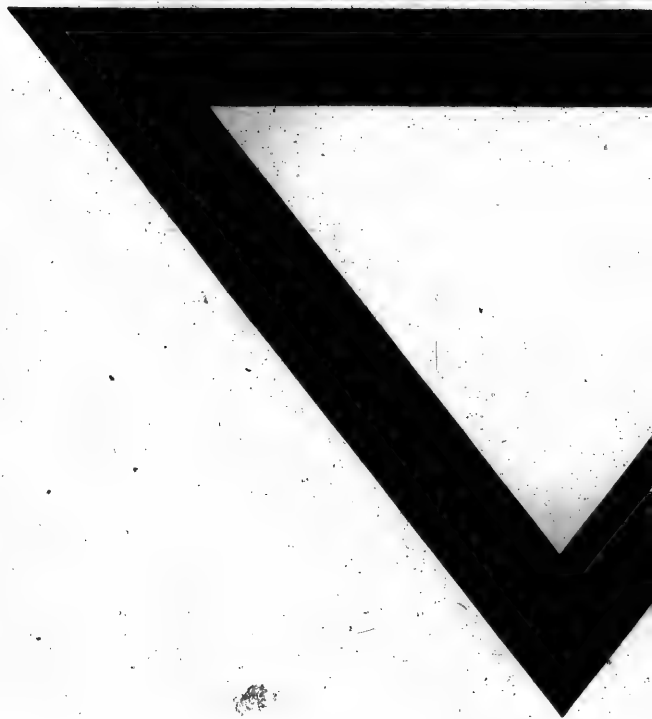
EXCEPTIONS.—(See the third of preceding rules for the masculine.)

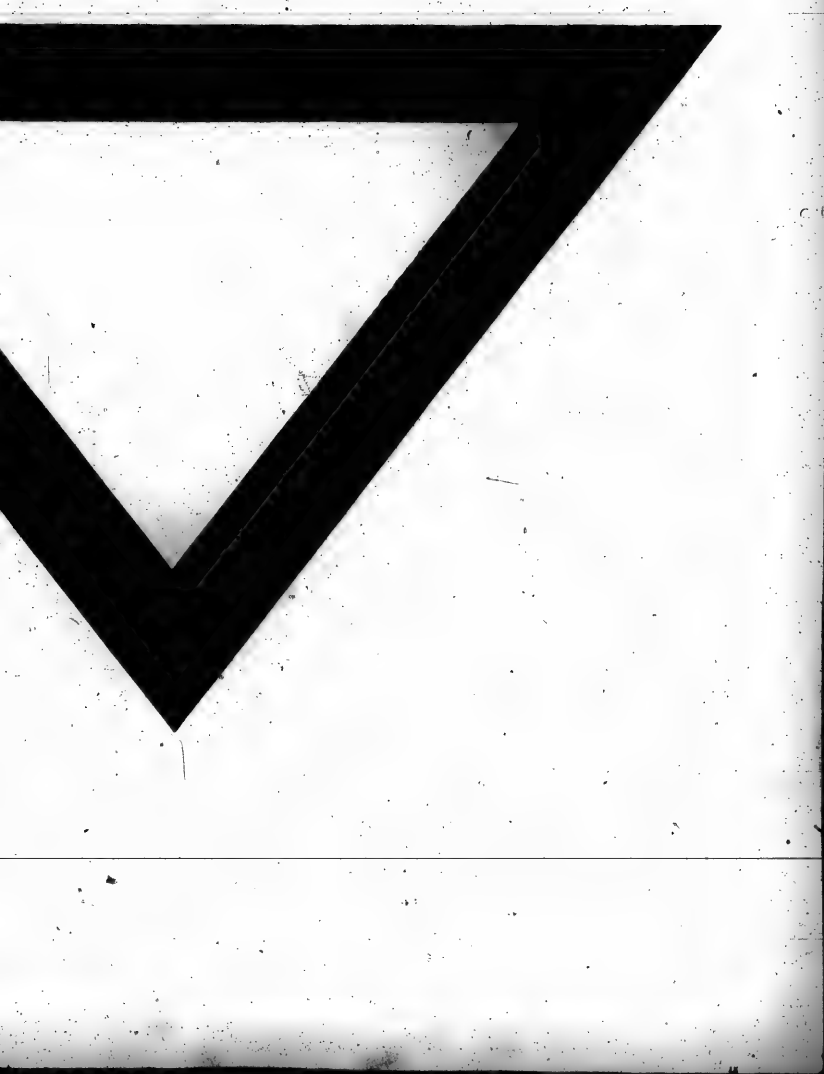
List of nouns the most used which are masculine in one signification and feminine in another.

Masculine.		Feminine.	
a—aide	helper	aide	help
aigle	eagle	aigle	standard
aune	alder (tree)	aune	ell (measure)
c—le champagne	wine	la champagne	province
crêpe	crape	crêpe	pancake
critique	a critic	critique	criticism
d—délice (sing.)	delight	délices (plus)	delights
e—enseigne	an officer	enseigne	flag or sign
exemple	an example	exemple	writing copy
f—faux	a falsehood	une faux	a scythe

forêt	gimlet	forêt	a forest
un foudre	a wine butt	la foudre	thunderbolt
foudre de	a great war-	la foudre } de Dieu }	the wrath of God
guerre, dé-	rrior		
loquence	a great ora- tor		
g—un garde	a guardsman	la garde	military guard
le greffe	roll or regis- [trar	une garde	a defence
un guide	a guide	la greffe	graft
h—un homme	a classical ch [ant	une guide	a rein
m—un manche	a handle	une hymne	Christian hymn
un manœuvre	mason labor- [er	la manche	the sleeve
		la Manche	strait of Dover
		la manœuvre	manœuvre
un mémoire	a bill	la mémoire	memory
merci	thanks	merci	pity, mercy
mode	mood	mode	fashion
un mort	a dead man	la mort	death
un moule	a mould	une moule	a shell-fish
un mousse	a ship boy	mousse	moss (plant)
n—un novice	a novice	une novice	a nun—expectant
o—un œuvre	a literary w ^k	une œuvre	an action
o—un orgue (sing.)	organ	les orgues (plur.)	organs.
p—page	attendant	page	page of a book
paillasse	clown	paillasse	straw mattress
pendule	pendulum	pendule	clock
parallèle	comparison	parallèle	a line
période	height	période	epoch, phase
personne (pron)	no body	personne (noun)	a person
plane	plane tree)	plane	carpenter's tool
poêle	stove	poêle	frying pan
poste	station, office	poste	post office
un pupille	male pupil }	une pupille	female pupil
s—solde	payment	la pupille	apple of the eye
somme	a sleep	solde	pay of a soldier
souris	a smile	une somme	a sum of money
un monosyllable }		une souris	a mouse
un polysyllable }		une syllable	a syllable
t—un tête-à-tête		la tête	the head
un tour	a trick	une tour	a tower
v—le vague	empty space	une vague	a wave
un vase	a vase	la vase	slime, mud in water
un voile	a veil	une voile	a sail or sailing vessel.













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